

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

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DEATH.

At Hongkong, on August 31st, I. E. ELLES, aged 80.

At the Government Civil Hospital, on the 31st August, HARRY JOHN WATSON, deputy shipping master, Hongkong.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The Siberian Mail of the 11th ultimo arrived on the 31st ultimo.

The German Mail of the 31st July arrived on the 31st ultimo.

The English Mail of the 6th ultimo arrived on the 2nd instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

Mr. Willard Straight arrived in Peking on August 19th, and has been staying in the capital as the guest of the Acting Minister of America, Mr. Fletcher.

Attention has been called to the activities of a band of Sikh missionaries at Shanghai by the marriage of an Indian to a Chinese bride who had become a convert to Sikhism.

Mr. Joseph H. Boyd, for eight years a member of the Manila police, and latterly employed prospecting, committed suicide last Friday by leaping from the second storey of St. Paul's Hospital.

At the suggestion of the Commissioners of Constitutional Reform a scheme is being drawn up under which every Chinese male of a certain age must join the Army on pain of a fine of so much a month.

Mr. W. H. Martin, who is proceeding home, relinquishes his position as general manager of the Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., but still remains in the company's service as consulting engineer. Mr. W. J. Oates is the new manager of the Co.'s mines.

To dispel the mistaken notion that Y. M. C. A.'s have no sense of humour, a Singapore contemporary draws attention to the programme of a forthcoming concert which has these two items:—4. Chairman's Remarks; 5. Song, "If thou wer't dumb."

The U. S. Pacific Squadron is expected to visit Japan on or about February next, via Manila and China. The squadron consists of the cruisers *Washington*, *Tennessee*, *South Dakota*, *California*, *West Virginia*, *Maryland*, *Pennsylvania* and *Colorado*.

The return of the imports into and exports from the Straits Settlements for the quarter ended June 30th last, shows that there was an increase in imports of \$959,661, equal to £111,961, as compared with the same period last year, and an increase in exports of \$1,940,039, or £226,339.

It is an extraordinary fact, says the *Pinang Gazette*, that while hundreds of people at home, and scores in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, have made huge profits out of the recent rubber boom, hardly anybody in Penang seems to have derived any direct pecuniary benefit at all therefrom.

The name of the British Army officer who was recently killed at Peking was Captain Leary, who was chief ordinance officer at Tientsin. As the train was pulling out, he lost his balance, fell under the wheels of one of the coaches, and was crushed to death. He was late and tried to jump on the train after it had started. We learn that Captain Dooner has been transferred from Hongkong to fill the vacancy thus created.

Two of the largest funerals which have ever taken place in Macao were witnessed on Saturday last, one being that of the late Rev. Mother Superioress, Teresa Lucian, of the Canossian Institute at St. Antonio, and the other, the wife of Mr. Carlos d'Assumpcao, the chief Chinese interpreter of the *Expedient Sinico* (Macao). Mrs. Merlinda de Serma Fernandes d'Assumpcao. All the ecclesiastical, military and civil corporations took part in the funerals and the services at the resting place. The Rev. Mother Teresa Martinoia, of Hongkong, and staff were among the chief mourners at the funeral of the former, and Mr. J. M. de Castro Basto and family (also from Hongkong) were among those who attended the latter.

When the new Viceroy of the Liangkang was at Shanghai the other week a number of valuable papers and some money were abstracted from his baggage by a gang said to consist of four notorious scoundrels. The robbery took place in the French Concession and since then the French police have been instrumental in having one of the suspects arrested in Nanking. He now lies in prison in Shanghai pending the apprehension of his accomplices.

Mr. J. Bromhead Matthews (late of Presgrave and Matthews, Penang, and now Attorney-General, Bahamas) has been appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to be Attorney-General of the Straits Settlements, in succession to Mr. W. J. Napier. Mr. Matthews will arrive in Singapore to take over the duties in October, and he is sure of a very cordial welcome from the legal profession, to many of whom he is well-known. Mr. Matthews was called to the Bar in 1890, and was acting Solicitor-General of the Straits Settlements from October, 1902, to May, 1903. For three years, from 1901 to 1904, he was a member of the Legislative Council. In 1907 he was appointed Attorney-General in the Bahamas.

The Taotai of Amoy has lately received instructions from the Waiwupu to negotiate with the Foreign Consuls for the restoration of the right of policing Kulangsu Island to China and conferences are being held to discuss the matter. Those who are well versed in foreign affairs claim that that island is not on the same footing as a settlement and that China's request ought to be complied with. The gentry of Amoy are also negotiating with the Kiangsu Telephone Company for the purchase of the concern in accordance with the agreement entered into between the Chinese authorities and the Company five years ago. The Company has asked for \$8,000 and the gentry have offered \$4,000, but it is probable that a compromise will be effected?—*Shanghai Times*.

Messrs. Ilbert and Co.'s Piece Goods Market Reports:—Our market is quiet but firm, buyers still maintaining a very cautious policy, and with the exception of a few parcels picked up here and there at comparatively cheap rates, refuse to operate at the level of values asked. In the face of the present strong statistical position of cotton, it is hardly possible that Manchester can show any sign of giving way to a level equal to the present ideas of dealers, and although somewhat early yet for spring purchases the Chinese realise that they will probably have to pay at least present importers' prices to fill their requirements. A brisker spot demand, however, from some of the principal up-country outlets would be welcome, and owing to the better agricultural outlook, now that the drought in the nearer provinces has broken, this may eventuate shortly. The native cotton crop outlook has very much changed for the better during the past fortnight; although no reliable statistics are available, the good prices that growers got last season has resulted in a larger area being put under cotton cultivation, and a crop of at least last year's dimensions may be expected. For the past few days the local staple has been easy. In yarns, Szechuan buyers are reported not to have done well upon their shipments made prior to the usual summer floods in the Yangtze, and support looked for from that quarter has been disappointing, that outlet finding piece goods a more profitable investment at present values ruling for spot cargo.

THE BRITISH PACIFIC FLEET.

(Daily Press, August 30th.)

There may be at first sight some disposition among British residents in the Far East to view with disfavour the scheme announced by the Prime Minister for the reorganisation of the Pacific squadrons, since it involves a further reduction in the numerical strength of the Fleet in Chinese waters; but a careful study of the scheme, which provides for a Pacific Fleet with bases in the East Indies, in the China Sea and in Australia, we think will lead to conclusions which are eminently satisfactory. To begin with, it has obviously been the purpose of the Conference convened to consider the question of the Empire's defences to strengthen rather than to weaken our naval position in the Pacific. Many things have happened during the last two or three years to force upon the attention of our naval authorities the fact that, notwithstanding our alliance with Japan, there is need to increase our naval strength in the Pacific if we are to maintain our political prestige in these parts when attention is being largely claimed by the naval developments of the younger Powers. British residents in the Far East have never been reconciled to the withdrawal of the battleship squadron, because they appreciate the fact that the reduction of the Fleet involved in the eyes of unenlightened China a loss of political prestige. Following on this we have seen the squadrons of other Powers in the East strengthened; we have seen the "Great White Fleet" of American battleships touring the Pacific, impressing the people of our own Colonies as well as the people of Asia with its might and majesty. We have seen also the Navy Department of the United States embarking on schemes for heavily fortifying both Hawaii and the Philippines and for providing huge dry docks at each place. Nobody is bent on war; every nation solemnly protests that its aim is the maintenance of peace. Our Colonies—Australia, New Zealand and Canada—have been not a little concerned at the growing power of other nations in the Pacific, and at the seeming indifference of the British Admiralty to these developments. But the factor which gave to the scheme of reorganisation its leading idea must have been offers of "Dreadnoughts" which the Imperial Government recently received from the Colonies with the intention of helping the Imperial Government to maintain the supremacy of the British Navy which, none too soon, the Government perceived was menaced by the shipbuilding programmes of rival Powers. While the Imperial Government, by unhesitatingly accepting them, showed its appreciation of the spirit of kinship which prompted these offers, the further consideration of the proposals led to new schemes for the naval defence of the Colonies, and the Colonies readily responded to a suggestion that instead of Dreadnoughts they should build cruisers primarily for the defence of their own coasts, but under control of the Imperial authorities. So we are to have in the South Pacific, besides the Australian Squadron of the Imperial Navy, a Commonwealth unit which will be attached to the Australian Squadron; we are to have also a New Zealand unit, which for some not very obvious reason will be under the direction of the Commander-in-Chief of the China Squadron. In the North Pacific the Admiralty is handing over to Canada the base at Esquimaux. The basis of the new scheme, therefore, is the embryo Colonial

navies which, in an emergency, say, in the Far East, may be left, if circumstances allow, to guard their own coasts, thus enabling the Imperial units to concentrate wherever they may be required. These Imperial units are each to consist of one cruiser of the "Indomitable" type, three second-class cruisers, six destroyers and three submarines. The cruisers of the "Indomitable" type—battleship-cruisers they are sometimes called—have eight 12in guns and are capable of travelling at 25 knots. The second-class cruisers mentioned would probably be ships of the "County" class. If that is the case, the new China unit would be a much more effective force than the present one, though not so strong numerically. When, however, we realise that, without leaving the shores of our colonies in the South Pacific unprotected, it will be possible under the new scheme to concentrate in the Far East if necessary, in the space of less than twenty days, three such units giving a combination of three "Indomitables" (twenty-four 12 inch guns), nine good cruisers, eighteen destroyers and nine submarines, we shall have little to fear or to complain about while existing conditions continue. It would be immensely superior to any combination we could get in the time under present arrangements. What we should try to secure, if the scheme does not already provide for this, is that there should be an annual concentration of the three units for a tour in the Far East, where such demonstrations count for so much in the maintenance of political prestige. If this is not already arranged for, the matter might very well form the subject of representations by the Far Eastern branches of the Navy League, for we feel sure that in making this suggestion we give expression to a desire which will be shared by all British residents in the East.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

(Daily Press, August 31.)

It is the announcement be correct that an agreement has been come to between China and Japan regarding the Chientao and the Fakumen Railway, and the other principal points in dispute in Manchuria, be correct, there is every reason to congratulate both China and Japan on the removal of a very dangerous complication. Throughout the dispute, it is satisfactory to notice, China had displayed an amount of good temper, which has been unfortunately not always present in her other negotiations, and she has been so far wise that she did not permit in this case the affair to fall into the hands of the professional agitators, who have done so much to make their country contemptible in the eyes of the other Powers. In September, 1907, we gave a sketch of the position in the Chientao, the "unoccupied circuit" between China and Korea, which for long had been closed to occupation by either Power in order to prevent intercommunication between the two countries. The land itself actually belonged to China, who in those days maintained an effective frontier guard to prevent smuggling, as it was called, between the two countries, and this was one of her last efforts to maintain her elf in isolation from her neighbours. The principle is here not in question; the fact is notorious. Till, in fact, the defeat of the Chinese in the Japan war, the Chientao remained entirely unoccupied; except that in the latter days a few robbers, owing allegiance to neither China nor Korea, used to make it the scene of their operations, and plunder both indifferently. The Chinese, after the treaty of Shimonoseki, had little

interest in Korea, and seem to have neglected from sheer carelessness the guarding of the Chientao. Still, according to old treaties, the Yalu and the Tumen rivers remained, as before, the northern boundaries of Korea on the west and east, respectively. The treaty of Portsmouth made little reference to boundaries, as these had never been in dispute; still it provided that Japan was not to erect fortifications along the Tumen, which would certainly have been a needless clause if Korea's actual boundary had then, or at any period, extended fifty miles further to the northern fringe of the Chientao.

It was then but natural that the claim, for the first time put forward by Japan, should have seemed to Russia to contravene what she considered as one of the important stipulations of the Agreement; it was also natural that England, whose commercial interests were concerned in linking up the railways between Chili and Mukden, should hesitate to endorse the prohibition by Japan of the construction by China of the Hsiamintun-Fakumen line. We are not now, fortunately, concerned with the reasons which led Japan to press her claims in either direction. Still, there is no doubt that, considering the amount of explosive material that was lying about, caution would have been reasonable. England in the hands of socialistic amateurs, one of whose fads was that Japan was benevolently guarding for us the Pacific; it is true, might be relied on not to go beyond the mildest of remonstrance; Russia was still too much occupied trying to suppress her own proletariat; and China—well, she need not be thought of. And so Japan thought the world wagged till a few months ago. France had made friends with England, and found the feeling reciprocated; but she had done more—she was not content till she had got Russia to join the baby-house. Then the United States commenced to think that they had made a mistake in not cultivating China a little more: there was evidently a powerful nation who rated China at a higher level than did Japan—perhaps she had made a mistake—who knows? Finally KING EDWARD had invited the TSAR NICOLAS II. to pay him a visit: and they had talked long and confidentially. Now KING EDWARD knows the political aspects of the world as well, or probably better, than any foreign minister in Europe, and it was certain that amongst the things that entered into their confidential communications at Cowes was this little affair of the relations between China, Russia and Japan. Altogether, there was much to be said in favour of making a friend of China. America thought it worth while; Russia, evidently, thought it worth while; and Japan has evidently also now found it worth while to join in the procession.

Indeed, the whole story, now that the solution has been found, reads not unlike the old nursery tale. The woman wanted to go over the stile to pluck the "bonny bunch of raspberries" at the other side, but needed a stick to help her to cross, and all animated nature combined to prevent her. After the crowd had been vainly invoked one after the other, one more complaisant than the others consented if she would fetch a jugful of water in a sieve. It was the crow who suggested plastering the sieve with mud that finally got over the difficulty, with the result that each of the animals, who had before refused, ran in hot haste to fulfil the old lady's requests. Japan has evidently discovered how to carry the water in the sieve, and the result is instructive. First, the Chientao belongs to China; second, the Hsiamintun-Fakumen Railway will be

built; third, Japan works the Fushan and Yentai collieries; fourth, the railways will be taken into the city of Mukden; fifth, the Newchwang and South Manchurian Railways will be joined up, and connection made with the port and settlement at Newchwang. Now, all these things are very much for the advantage of China, as they will be also very much to the advantage of Japan; and we may go still further, and say with assurance they will be for the advantage of the whole world having any interest in the concerns of the Far East. But more advantageous in the immediate future is it that the scratching and catterwauling which has now been going on for two years, very much to the annoyance of the neighbours, and of not the slightest benefit to either of those concerned, will now have no more occasion for breaking out afresh; and we hope may be considered as finally ended. China has lately had much to answer for in the way of seeking to place herself at cross purposes with her best friends, and it would be well for her also did she take to heart the lesson, though, in this particular instance, it is to her credit that she has succeeded in controlling her temper under somewhat aggravating circumstances. Still, with every desire to give credit for the dispersion of a very ugly and dangerous position to both Japan and China, we fear we can congratulate neither on having materially contributed to the result—the real influences at work having been the effect of the recent rapprochement between Russia and England. The conference between the two sovereigns has really had more to say to the satisfactory result than all the wisdom of the East. Still, as it has come about, the least said is the soonest mended.

THE CASE AGAINST THE SUFFRAGETTE.

(Daily Press, September 1st.)

At last the suffragette question, which has caused so much trouble at Home, has been brought into a definite shape and framed into a clear issue by an essay which has been published by Professor DICEY on the subject. As most people, who gave themselves the trouble to think seriously on the matter, have seen from the first, the question really only required to be dealt with by some authority thoroughly acquainted with the facts and of sufficient critical ability to estimate their value, for its true bearing to become perfectly clear. Professor DICEY, who thoroughly fulfils both these requirements, has done good service in the pamphlet which he has recently issued, dealing with the whole question in a perfectly fair and judicial manner; and it will be surprising, after such an exposition of the real merits of the matter, if the claims which have been so intemperately put forward will not be abandoned, or at least modified into something with which practical statesmen can deal.

Broadly stated, what Professor DICEY makes clear is that there is no grievance which women have, or claim to have, in the present day which can warrant any such extreme action as is demanded. He shows that any substantial grievances that women had have of late years been always fairly remedied by a legislature composed of men; and this statement made by an eminent lawyer perfectly acquainted with the course which legislation has taken ought to be sufficient to convince those who doubt that justice will be done to women in any individual matter that is fairly brought before the legislature, and that, in order to secure this, it is not necessary to make a complete

change in the government of the country. It is obviously going too far, even if some specific grievance were alleged, to assume that it can be righted only by so sweeping a measure as the general enfranchisement of women. Certainly in such a case all other methods should be tried before resorting to so serious a remedy. How serious it is is very plainly shown by Professor DICEY by the statistics which he gives as to the alteration, which would be effected in the electorate, if women suffrage, as now crudely demanded, were introduced. The result of doing so would be to more than double the electorate and make it one in which women would be in the majority. If it be considered for a moment what this must mean in regard to the representation of the country at large, the seriousness of the change proposed will be at once apparent. No one can in any way estimate what might be the result of such a step. Some of the opponents of any such idea, among them the *Spectator*, point out, not without some plausibility that it might actually mean that the whole strength of the country would be dissipated by measures of a yielding and anti-warlike character, which might terminate in nothing less than the downfall of the Empire. There may or may not be just ground for quite so serious a view of the subject as this, but it is nevertheless a contingency which may well be considered in the present unsettled times. We may be at least certain that such an alteration in the electorate would affect a large number of burning questions in the most serious way, and certainly the present is not a time for any such heroic experiments. Professor DICEY points out—and really the fact requires only to be pointed out to satisfy any reasonable person of its truth—that the change proposed is nothing less than revolutionary; and no ground whatever has been shown for any step of so far reaching a nature. Nothing of the kind, indeed, is stated to exist. The claim is made chiefly on the ground that their inability to vote is some kind of deprivation of rights to women. This idea Professor DICEY shows to be entirely erroneous, as there is no abstract right to a vote on the part of anyone—voting not being a personal right, but a power to be exercised for the benefit of the public. It is simply a means to an end—that end being the government of the country in conformity with the wishes and interests of the community at large, with, of course, due consideration of what is just to each particular class. This is a point upon which an eminent lawyer like Professor DICEY is specially entitled to be heard, and he has made it perfectly clear and placed the matter in its true light. The question of voting is thus a purely practical one, and not one in any true sense of abstract right, and before any great change is made in the way of voting the point to consider is whether it will be to the benefit of the State as a whole, and whether if, there is just reason why any specific class should be more fully represented, this can be done without serious injury to other classes. In the case under consideration there is certainly no special grievance from which women suffer which could not be remedied as matters stand, and certainly none has been alleged by those who advocate a change which would be, as stated, nothing short of revolutionary.

It seems somewhat strange that the point which Professor DICEY makes so clear as to the seriousness of the alteration proposed in the electorate has not been put forward sooner and in an even more forcible form. If the proposal were that the same addition

of men as is proposed of women should be made to the voters' lists, it is obvious that this would be considered a measure of so serious a character that no statesman or Government could be asked to entertain it except for very grave reasons. If the matter is looked upon in this light, there can be few people—whatever their views may be upon the desirability of women voting in the abstract—who can fail to see that the change asked for by the suffragists is of so gigantic a character, as electoral matters actually stand in the United Kingdom, that no one possessed of common prudence can be expected to favour so hazardous and complete a leap in the dark.

THE KOWLOON RAILWAY.

(Daily Press, September 2nd.)

While the REUTER'S telegram we published yesterday giving the substance of questions and answers in Parliament regarding the Kowloon Railway contains nothing that the local community has not heard before, it is at least gratifying to observe that there are two or three members of the House of Commons who take an interest in the Colony of Hongkong very different from that of the anti-opium faddists who are continually proclaiming their ignorance of the place by declaring it to be "one of the blackest opium spots in the Far East." While it is evident from recent statements made in Parliament that the latter group would view without regret the financial embarrassment of the Colony, the interest which Mr. GINNELL, Mr. H. C. LEA and Mr. KESWICK have shown in the Kowloon Railway enterprise manifests a more sympathetic attitude towards the taxpayers of Hongkong. In the replies of the UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE to the questions put by Mr. GINNELL in the House on Monday we have over again the answers given in the Legislative Council by H. E. the GOVERNOR. "The original estimate was very rough and never intended to be exact." Nobody expects an estimate to be exact, but, when the Colony pays a sum of something like \$40,000 for surveys and estimates, something better worth the money might have been expected than an estimate on which it is now contended no reliance whatever could be placed. Colonel SAEELY'S evasive answer to Mr. GINNELL'S question, as to how the Railway could ever be made to pay (having regard to its capital cost) in competition with the shorter navigable river, should be carefully noted. The UNDER SECRETARY pointed out that the direct profit of the line was not the only matter to consider: "the indirect profit accruing from the improvement of trade facilities was far more important." Looking at the matter from the Imperial standpoint, that is doubtless quite a sound view to take; but this small Colony, and not the wide British Empire, pays the interest on the loan, and will in time have to repay the capital, so that the question of whether any direct profit may be anticipated in the immediate future is one which most intimately affects the taxpayers of this Colony, who, when the railway is completed and paid for, will have to find the interest payable on a loan of about a million pounds sterling. We dealt more fully with all these points in a series of articles which have evidently come under the notice of Mr. GINNELL. The replies of Colonel SAEELY to the questions asked by the hon. member for West Meath as we have already remarked, practically re-echo the utterances of H. E. the GOVERNOR in the Legislative Council, except on this one point of the remunerative character of the undertaking,

and Colonel SEELY seems to be "hedging" somewhat on this point. When replying to a series of questions put by the same member in July, Colonel SEELY said: "It is confidently expected that either directly or indirectly, through the increase of trade with the interior of China, the Colony will be amply repaid for the money expended on construction." We all hope so; but the present point of interest is how long shall we have to wait for this great increase of trade? Unfortunately there can be no confident expectation of such an immediate increase of trade as will relieve the taxpayers from the apprehensions that a railway so heavily capitalised is, for some years, bound to be a burden on the finances of the Colony. The wording of the telegram in our yesterday's issue suggests that the Under Secretary has a glimmering of such a possibility. We trust it may not be overlooked when the Government comes to consider what amount of relief they will afford the Colony in connection with its loss of opium-revenue.

THE FROZEN PORK ENTERPRISE.

(Daily Press, September 3rd.)

The telegrams published about three weeks ago with reference to the reception given in London to the frozen pigs which the P. & O. steamer *Palermo* carried home from Hankow, have left the general public in some doubt about the prospects of the new industry. A strong prejudice appeared to have been worked up against Chinese pork on political as well as hygienic grounds. As the Commissioner of Customs at Hankow remarks in his annual report, which has just been issued, "the idea of China pigs being shipped for consumption in England causes Europeans to shudder, as it brings to their minds the scrawny scavenger of the streets disputing with the dogs for the choicer morsels, probably one of the most loathsome of animals." Certainly that represents the idea of the China pig entertained by most Europeans acquainted with China. But Mr. SUGDEN supplies the reassuring information, which will be of great value to the importers and retailers, that the pig which is being frozen is the black, black and white, occasionally even white, variety from Hunan, which, he tells us, is more like the chubby pig of the story books, and is probably the pig which was taken to England and America to improve home stocks. They are kept in farms, "by the rich in their own houses" (the quotation marks are Mr. SUGDEN's own), and are well fed on the creepers of red potato, rice chaff, dregs of grain, and leaves of wild shrubs, all chopped up and boiled together. They are, therefore, a species with which the European of the coast ports seldom, if ever, becomes acquainted, and it is no "malicious rumour" that the Englishman in the East by no means considers the Chinese pig the succulent morsel LAMB's immortal Chinese found it to be." It is a sober statement of fact that the English resident in the coast ports generally shuns pork unless he has the assurance that the porker has been reared by the Hongkong Dairy Farm, that is to say, strictly in western habits. The curious remark is made in Mr. SUGDEN's report that in the Hankow market Hunan pigs are regarded as inferior to the Hupeh breed, being said to have "an unpleasant smell, which makes it easily distinguished when cooked." It must not, however, be assumed that the European sense of smell would corroborate this description of the odour, for in the sense of smell the Oriental differs from an Occidental as widely as he

does in the matter of taste. The experiment which is being made in the export of frozen food from China appears to have entailed a heavy investment, but as the Company has had the matter under consideration for many years, we may assume that they felt reasonably sure of ultimate success before putting up at Hankow a big plant at a cost of some £30,000. Besides pork, the Company froze some 200 tons of eggs broken into tins, so that they may thus be carried free from chemicals to their refrigerating chamber in England; they have frozen also thousands of chickens and ducks, pheasant, snipe and wildfowl, from geese to teal, and some hog deer. What is absolutely necessary to ensure the success of the experiment is a ready sale for the food as soon as it arrives. While New Zealand lamb is sold in the English markets in a frozen condition, because the authorities are satisfied with the medical inspection at the port of shipment, in the case of this first shipment of Chinese pigs, the carcasses had to be thawed for forty-eight hours before the meat could be put on the market, in order that a thorough inspection of it might be made by the responsible public authority. As the inspection of this first consignment proved entirely satisfactory, it is not unreasonable to expect that under proper guarantees from the Union Cold Storage Company for a thorough inspection at Hankow, the Government will presently agree to admit the company's consignments of frozen meat from China into the country practically on the same conditions that frozen meat is admitted from New Zealand and Australia, and so give the enterprise a better chance of success than it now commands. Evidently, if the prejudice with which it has been assailed can be successfully overcome, a very large business is likely to develop.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

We are still anxiously waiting to learn how much we are henceforth to pay for our liquors, but the debate on the liquor resolution did not take place on Friday at the Legislative Council as expected—and the subject might very well be dropped altogether.

Friday was indeed a dog day at the Legislative Council. A proposal was made to increase the fee for a dog licence from three dollars to five, but whether it was made in all seriousness or whether it was a subtle joke is not very apparent from the reported discussion. Perhaps some of the gentlemen present at the discussion might enlighten us. A joke should not go unappreciated, even if we have a large Scottish community.

The tragic murder of the Indian police in the New Territory has been responsible for a crop of suggestions. Perhaps the most interesting was the proposal to introduce mounted police. This and other suggestions are largely based on an unreal and alarmist view of the actual condition of affairs in the Dependency. The New Territories are undoubtedly peaceful. The people are as a rule law-abiding and well-behaved, and it is only temptation or the incursion of undesirables from outside which are mostly responsible for the occasional outbreaks of lawlessness which shock the Colony by their brutality. Doubtless a few more European police would be of advantage, but to take an alarmist view of the state of the New Territory because of one murder is to show an ignorance of the real conditions prevailing.

Ridicule has already been showered on the proposal to introduce mounted police, because there are no roads, or scarcely any roads, on which they could operate. Automobiles might be tried, as they have a reputation for going over anything. Better still, aeroplanes might be found useful. The policeman would have a

great range of vision, and once he spotted his quarry it would be easy to hook him with his grappling irons and raise him to the heavens before he unhooked him. In this way arrest and punishment might be combined—a convenience which would doubtless be appreciated by our overwrought magistrates.

Now that the Directoire gown has ceased to be fashionable, it was with something of a shock that I read the other day that Directoire bathing costumes were being worn. They may be all right for ladies at home who do not bathe, and who merely sit on the sand for the delectation of male observers, but I cannot imagine our Hongkong ladies, despite their fashionable ambitions, wearing such attire. I don't mean to suggest that their figures make it impossible—far from it, but the men would never allow it. Already when on launch picnics the interval between getting out of the water and sitting down (fully or partially dressed) to refreshments is considered too long, simply by reason of the delay caused by the ladies dressing—and if that period of delay is augmented by the difficult shoehorn process of getting into a Directoire and the more difficult operation of getting out of it, the impatient male people would rise in revolt. And a *Mixed* party without men would be somewhat of an anomaly.

It is wonderful what confusion of thought is to be found even in high places. Look at our local legislators, some of whom on Friday failed to distinguish what a Protestant was. But I suppose we should be charitable, "seeing as how" religious matters are not our forte in the East.

"Despite the period of depression and the keenness of competition," as the chairmen of our local companies say before they announce that dividend warrants will be ready, there are quite a number of marriages contemplated this autumn. I am told by one who knows that the number is larger than usual, and that some of them will be social events of no mean importance.

The cost of living in the East is an ever present grumble, and it made me smile to learn that an Indian who applied for a position here cited the low rate of exchange, the high cost of living, the duty of caring for a widowed mother and innumerable small brothers and sisters as reasons for asking a higher scale of remuneration than that enjoyed by his predecessor. The low rate of exchange and the high cost of living are decidedly good.

Apropos, the cost of living is the conversation I heard the other day about the expense of maintaining a family, which was neatly rounded off by one gentleman quoting the inscription on a tombstone in Kansas:

Here our little Georgie lays,
He neither cries nor hollers;
He lived just two and twenty days.
And cost us forty dollars.

A correspondent referring to my paragraph last week on the Chinese applying pepper to an injury, especially a cut finger, writes to tell me that as a matter of fact pepper is a particularly good remedy to apply to a cut. It will stop bleeding almost immediately, he says, and absolutely without pain. I am glad to be enlightened and pass the information on for the benefit of others.

Someone wrote to the papers the other day complaining on the part of respectable residents of the nuisances in Wyndham Street. This provoked a reply from some wit who suggested that if the complainer removed to Kowloon he would be free from these nuisances. It is like the man who complained to his landlord of his hens being drowned by his premises being flooded and was told to keep ducks.

RODERICK RANDOM.

The annual report of Dr. J. W. Hartley, the Railway Medical Officer, shows that there were 557 cases of malaria in the North and South Face camps, Beacon Hill Tunnel, last year. In 1907 the number was 1,168. The cases of injury last year numbered 354 as compared with 371 in the previous year.

HONGKONG.

The Dutch Squadron left Hongkong on Thursday night shortly after 5 p.m. for Amoy.

Mr. Shelton Hooper left yesterday by the *Tenyo-Maru* on a short trip.

The Chinese boat population of the Colony of Hongkong was estimated for 1908 to be 44,940.

Dr. Amos P. Wilder had a conference with President Taft at the White House, Washington, on the 26th inst.

For stealing two shutters, the property of Messrs. Falconer & Co., Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy on Sept. 2 sentenced a native to three weeks' imprisonment with hard labour.

The hearing of the summonses against Mrs. Meyer of the Colonial Hotel and two compadres for selling brandy not of the nature demanded was concluded at the Magistracy on Sept. 1. Mr. Hazeland reserved his decision.

An old beggar, who has been banished from the Colony on several occasions, but who always returns, was charged before Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy on Sept. 1 with being a rogue and a vagabond, and was sent to prison for a month.

According to the annual report of the Principal Civil Medical Officer of Hongkong the death rate last year was 27.55 per 1,000 as against 22.12 in 1907. For the non-Chinese community only (including the Army and Navy) the death-rate was 14.78 per 1,000, as compared with 15.46 per 1,000 in 1907.

Mr. J. R. Wood presided over a meeting of Justices of the Peace held at the Magistracy on the 30th ult., and there were also present Messrs. F. J. Badeley and C. D. Melbourne. The business was to consider an application from Mr. E. A. Kennedy for the transfer to him from Mr. A. E. Gagnon of the publican's licence to sell by retail intoxicating liquors on premises No. 2, Pak Shui Wan, Shauiwan Road, under the sign of "The Belle View Hotel." The application was adjourned until the 10th ultimo.

Detective Murphy made a smart find on the 2nd inst. when he boarded the Kongmoon river steamer *Tak Hing* in search of arms. Among the packages which he investigated was the trunk of a Chinese recently returned from America. This box, he discovered, contained a false bottom, and beneath this, carefully placed in grooves, he found a rifle, two bullet moulds and 400 rounds of ammunition. The defendant appeared before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy later, and informed his Worship that he was ignorant of the law. As he took such pains to evade it, however, his Worship imposed a fine of \$200.

Dr. Atkinson, P. C. M. O., in his annual report mentions that there were 26 cases of typhoid among Europeans in the Colony last year. Five occurred among other non-Chinese races, and only seven among Chinese. The total number of cases, 38, compares with 73 in 1907, and 66 in 1906. Ten of the cases were imported. The source of infection, and one which is always present, the report states, is probably, in the majority of cases, in native grown vegetables which are manured with diluted human excreta. Raw vegetables, salads, &c., from Chinese sources should therefore never be eaten. Oysters also should be looked upon with suspicion and not eaten raw.

The story of a long-standing dispute was told to Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy on Sept. 2nd when five Chinese from Shek O were prosecuted for fighting and creating a disturbance. The defendants, a widow and her daughter, and another widow and son and daughter, own plots of land adjoining each other, and although these plots were marked out as far back as two years ago, the defendants continue to encroach on each other's property, and to gather each other's crops. On the occasion of each dispute the police are called to settle matters, but they have been troubled so much of late by the parties that Inspector Collett decided to put an end to the bickering and with this object in view placed all the landholders before the Magistrate. His Worship yesterday bound each defendant over in the sum of \$100 to keep the peace for six months.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 1st inst. in the Council Chamber.

The following were present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR FREDERICK JOHN DEALTRY LUGARD, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Acting Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Mr. C. M. I. MESSER (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. P. N. H. JONES (Acting Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. Mr. F. J. BADELEY (Capt. Superintendent of Police).

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, M.B., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. E. OSBORNE.

Hon. Mr. E. A. HEWETT.

Hon. Mr. MURRAY STEWART.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK, C.M.G.

Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

FINANCIAL MINUTE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table Financial Minute No. 39, and moved that it be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 13) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

LIQUOR LICENCES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY announced that it was not intended to proceed at the present meeting with the resolution under section 6 of the Liquor Licences Extension Ordinance, 1908.

MAGISTERIAL FINES.

Hon. Mr. STEWART asked—"Is it a fact that, as stated in the newspapers, a coolie was fined \$25 at the Police Court for playing a dice game in the street, and that, in the same Court on the same day, fines amounting to less than half that amount were imposed in the case of a conviction for being drunk and disorderly in Morrison Hill Road, and unprovokedly assaulting and wounding Mr. Blowey by striking him several times on the head with a heavy stick?"

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied—"In the former case Mr. J. R. Wood inflicted a fine of \$25.00 for street gambling on the 27th August. The police reported that gambling in this particular locality was persistent and that they had been unable hitherto to make arrests. In the latter case Mr. F. A. Hazeland imposed a fine of \$12.00 on a Japanese on the 27th August for being drunk and disorderly and for a common assault. The Magistrate took into consideration the very drunken condition of the man and the fact that he was quite ignorant of what he was doing. The Magistrate considered the fine inflicted quite sufficient under the circumstances.

MAGISTRATES AND CRIMINAL LAW

AMENDMENT ORDINANCE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Magistrates and Criminal Law Amendment Ordinance, 1909.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Gentlemen, the memorandum which is attached to the Bill which it is proposed now to read for the first time gives more or less fully the object which we have in introducing this Bill. You will remember that the clause which it is now proposed to repeal met with some opposition in this Council at the time the Bill was passed, but no alternative was offered which should have any prospect of checking the insanitary and disease-producing habit which it was the object of that clause to combat. It was suggested that notices should be posted and that spittoons should be provided. Both those steps have been taken, but I think I may say, however effective measures, of that sort are likely to be when first instituted, they almost inevitably become a dead letter in the course of

a short time. The clause was intended to give power to the Government to make regulations, not with a view to prohibiting spitting, but to controlling it in certain public places. I may observe that it was not my intention that these regulations in the circumstances should be either harsh or drastic. But I had it in mind that they should prohibit the habit in the market, where food is exposed for sale, except in such receptacles provided; and also that any procedure under the regulation, should be by way of summons and confined to aggravated cases. That only European police should be allowed to arrest persons, and then in cases where a previous warning had been disregarded; and that newcomers just arrived in the Colony should not be made amenable. Since the Bill has passed the Council the Chinese members of the Council have approached me and told me it is their intention to inaugurate an anti-spitting committee for the total suppression of the habit by education and persuasive means. They told me that some eighty of the leading members of the Chinese community had volunteered to support this association, and to conduct it with energy, and earnestness, and success. I have always said in this Council, gentlemen, since I have been here that in my opinion methods of co-operation are in every way to be preferred to methods of coercion. (Hear, hear.) I welcome, therefore, most cordially the initiative taken by members of the Chinese community with a view to checking the habit. Co-operation and coercion cannot exist side by side, therefore the Bill before you to-day suggests the repeal of the clause which should give power to the Government to make regulations to prohibit spitting. I recommend it to you, trusting entirely to the pledge or promise of the leading members of the Chinese community that they will do, to use their own words, everything in their power with earnestness and with energy, and I wish them in every way success. (Applause.)

The Bill was read a first time.

OPIUM CONSOLIDATION ORDINANCE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Laws relating to Opium and its Compounds.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

HON. MR. STEWART—Your Excellency; Inasmuch as the principle of this Bill appears to be the elementary business one of making as clear as possible the terms of a prospective contract, no unofficial member is likely to oppose it. The only comment I have to make is upon the Government's failure to apply it thoroughly when dealing with the case of this particular contract a couple of months ago. A couple of months ago this principle was advanced throughout in the debates on the second and third readings of the Bill closing the opium divans. The plea of urgency was based upon it. Unofficial members were informed that there was pressing need for passing that Bill promptly, because until its provisions in final form were made known, the terms for the new farm advertised, and the tenders got in, the Colonial Treasurer could not possibly tell what the loss on closing the divans would amount to, the Secretary of State could not say what proportion he was prepared to bear, and the work of preparing the Estimates could not be proceeded with. Before all things, it was said to be necessary that the details of the new conditions under which henceforward the Farm will be held should be left in no uncertainty. The importance of this was put forward as a reason for declining to accept an amendment providing a suspensory clause. A suspensory clause was objected to as opening a chink through which doubt might conceivably creep in. Stress was laid upon the difficulties liable to be engendered by indeterminate conditions. The conditions had to be beyond doubt, and they had to be advertised without delay. They were advertised immediately after the Bill passed and for many weeks subsequently. The assumption was that everything had been done to make the position clear. It therefore came as a surprise to find that all the time the regulations embodied in this Bill were in process of incubation. We now learn that until they are hatched out it is impossible to proceed, in a satisfactory manner, with the business of negotiating.

Your Excellency's introductory remarks last week made this plain. From them I gathered that the new Bill materially affects the position of the prospective farmer. This impression is confirmed by a perusal of its clauses. It would seem therefore that there was really no such pressing need, after all, for hurrying through the previous measure, and that all the subsequent advertisement has been so much waste of time and money. Two months ago I did not feel fully persuaded of the need for expedition. Now it is evident that then there was none. It is equally evident that, by this time, there must be. The unofficial members are therefore forced to agree once more to the adoption of those somewhat hasty methods of law-making, which are nowadays largely employed elsewhere, but which are nevertheless to be deprecated in a deliberative assembly.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Gentlemen, what the hon member at the end of the table has said is to a certain extent correct. That is to say, that when the amending ordinance was before the Council we believed that that would meet all that was required for inviting tenders for the coming farm. But you are aware that there are a series of ordinances dealing with opium, and a series of amending ordinances have from time to time been passed under those ordinances. The result has been that the law has become somewhat complicated and somewhat chaotic; and that on a close examination of the various ordinances it appeared that there were some clauses which, as I said in my remarks at the last Council meeting, were confusing, if not contradictory. I don't think that the Government can be held very seriously to blame for the condition of things, and I don't agree with what the hon member said about the alterations in the Bill very materially and seriously affecting the farm. In my view they are unlikely to cause any alteration in the tender. The legislation which we undertook a short time ago had, at any rate, this effect: that the amending ordinance which was sent home to the Secretary of State obtained his approval. We therefore settled beyond doubt the question that our policy is in accordance with that policy for which the Secretary of State promised us a substantial consideration if it involved any loss to this Colony. We had hoped and thought that legislation in connection with opium would cease for some considerable time when that last amending ordinance was passed, and it is not the case that the present consolidating ordinance has been a long time in incubation, or was conceived or thought of at the time, or for sometime after, the amending ordinance was passed. There was at that time a need for haste in order to call for tenders. Those tenders were called for, and the general conditions surrounding the contract for opium in this Colony have no doubt been studied and appreciated by tenderers. Such minor restrictions which appear in the ordinance now to be discussed will, as already said, be unlikely to affect materially those who intend to tender.

Council then resolved itself into a committee of the whole Council to consider the Bill clause by clause.

HIS EXCELLENCY explained that, in the absence of the Attorney-General, he proposed to pilot the Bill through committee. The Bill embodied three principal ordinances, the Raw Opium Ordinance of 1887, the Prepared Opium Ordinance of 1891, and the Morphia Ordinance of 1899. Under those three principal ordinances a series of amending ordinances had been incorporated from time to time. The definition of prepared opium was new, having been taken from the Straits ordinance. The definition of compound opium had also been revised to tally with the definition of prepared opium, while the definition of opium dross was new. Morphia in this ordinance referred to morphine in all its forms, while the definition of raw opium was new. The definition of a chest of opium had also been slightly amended, while in the definition of the Colony words were added to show that there was no doubt that the new Territory was included in this Ordinance.

On clause 55,

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE pointed out that it would be impracticable for a shipmaster to declare morphine on board for Shanghai, for instance. Ships arriving on Saturday would have

left—long before the Harbour Master's Office was open on Monday.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT said this clause was very vexatious, and ought to be left out, as it was quite unnecessary. It could not be said that it had been abused. It was just as well to say that a ship passing through Marseilles from China to London would have to provide a manifest of all her cargoes, because on certain of the goods an import duty would be charged in France should they be landed there.

HIS EXCELLENCY explained that the clause was desired to prevent a ship arriving in port with opium for another port from transshipping here.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT said the fact of handing in a manifest would not guarantee that. A steamer between Yokohama and Bremen passed about a dozen ports, in all of which duties were charged. It would be just as reasonable to say that the ship should hand in a complete manifest of all cargo on board at each of these ports, and that would be absurd.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Would you prefer to have that section left out?

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Undoubtedly, Sir.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Substitute a penalty for landing.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—The final words "producing a false manifest" cover it. That is to say, suppose a ship discharged a part of the cargo which has not been declared.

The clause was altered to read, "Any master of a vessel carrying morphia or compounds of opium in transit through the Colony under a through bill of lading, who shall discharge such morphia or compounds of opium in the Colony without declaring the same to the superintendent, shall be guilty of an offence under this Ordinance."

On Council resuming,

The COLONIAL SECRETARY said—As it is desirable that this Bill should be passed as soon as possible, with the Council's permission I will now move the third reading.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Sir, with reference to the remark I made preparatory to the second reading, I should like to say that I did not intend to convey the impression that I had gone carefully through this Bill clause by clause comparing it in every detail with the original ordinances. Such a colossal undertaking would be impossible for anyone having other work to do. By what I said I meant to indicate that I had read sufficient to realise that the whole of the law on the subject had been recast; and by saying that the Bill materially affects the conditions under which the new farm will be held, I meant that anyone contemplating tendering for the farm would have to begin at the very beginning, and to study *de novo* the conditions of the recast law on the subject. As the word "material" is liable to misunderstanding, I desire to explain my use of it. It was possibly clumsily used.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

RATING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the third reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Rating Ordinance, 1901.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

DOGS AMENDMENT ORDINANCE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the third reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Dogs Ordinance, 1893.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

BILLS POSTPONED.

The following orders of the day were postponed:—

Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to authorize the Construction and Maintenance of a Harbour of Refuge upon and over certain portions of the Sea Bed and Foreshore situated upon the Harbour frontage of Taikoktsui, Mongkoktsui, and Yaumati, Kowloon, in this Colony.

Committee on the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Malicious Damage Ordinance, 1865.

Committee on the Bill entitled An Ordinance to relieve the Governor-in-Council of certain ministerial duties.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Council will adjourn until Thursday week.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, the COLONIAL SECRETARY presiding. The following vote was passed:—

PUBLIC WORKS EXTRAORDINARY.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Three thousand two hundred and seventy-seven Dollars (\$3,277) in aid of the vote, Public Works, Extraordinary, Quarantine Station at Lai-chi-kok, Hospital, Approach Paths, &c.

VICEROY YUAN IN HONGKONG.

On the 1st inst. the Viceroy-elect of the Two Kwang Provinces, His Excellency Yuan Shu-hsun, arrived here on board the steamer *Hsin Ming* from Shanghai, and was met on board the steamer by Captain Mitchell Taylor, aide-de-camp to His Excellency the Governor. Shortly afterwards His Excellency proceeded ashore in the Customs launch and landed at Blake Pier, where a guard of honour supplied by the Rajputs was drawn up to receive him. After inspecting the guard His Excellency and suite proceeded to Government House, the call being returned later by Sir Frederick Lugard. At noon His Excellency entertained the Viceroy and members of his suite to tiffin. In the afternoon the Viceroy partook of the hospitality of the Chinese Club, being entertained to tea. There was a large gathering of influential Chinese.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK, the president, in an address said:—On the 17th day of the 7th moon in the first year of the reign of the Emperor of China H. E. Yuen, the new Viceroy of Canton, en route to take up his office, calls at Hongkong. It is out of regard for his worthiness, which we have long heard of, that we, members of the Chinese Club, assemble here to welcome him, and not as a matter of form that this is done. Since H.E.'s last mission to the Old City in connection with matters concerning the Canton-Hankow Railway, hardly five years have elapsed, and yet he has now been promoted from the rank of a Provincial Judge to that of a Viceroy. Were it not for the meritorious services rendered by him to his own country and the clear-sightedness on the part of the Chinese Government, how could such a rapid promotion be obtained? Now, among those who talk of introducing reforms to save China, no one would dispute the fact that of all reforms which are urgently needed, international relations with Foreign Powers ranks first on the list, but it must be admitted that one must put one's home affairs in order before one can tackle things abroad. So until the purity of the service is secured there need be no thought of reorganizing home affairs. Hence success depends more upon the wisdom of the men to enforce the law than upon the usefulness of the law itself, and this is an accepted principle from time immemorial. It follows, therefore, that unless proper men are employed in the service, the introduction of reforms in the administration is but a mere name bearing no fruitful results. We have heard of H.E.'s ability as Governor of Shantung. He made it his first duty there to secure perfect purity in the service, whereby all officers under him learned to respect the law, and the people were delighted with his administration. Moreover, he imparted vigour to the whole Province, so that everything is known to be in perfect peace and harmony. Now, upon His Excellency's transfer to Canton, we may express the hope that the administration will be thoroughly organized and henceforth all matters connected with the municipality, army, education, agriculture, industry, commerce, railways, &c., of the Two Kwangs will have far brighter times. Such is the fervent hope and prayer of all present.

A highway robbery was reported to the police at Wanchai as having occurred on a small foot-path at the top of the Deep Water Bay Road on Thursday morning. Two fishermen called at the station and stated that three men surprised them as they were coming into town, threw pepper in their eyes, beat them with sticks, relieved them of \$12.40 and departed. The police are making inquiries.

SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Aug. 31 at the Board Room. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe presided, and there were present: Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin (Registrar-General), Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Colonel Bedford, Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, Dr. G. L. Fitzwilliams, Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Mr. Ho Kom Tong, Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Dr. Pearse (Assistant Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. W. Bowen Rowlands (Secretary).

WATER FLUSHING AGAIN.

An application was received for permission to erect eight water-closets at the Italian Convent.

Mr. Ho Kom Tong minuted—I approve of water-closets for the Convent if they have an independent water supply for flushing purposes. I do not think we should allow them to draw water from the public mains especially when thousands of Chinese have had only two hours' water supply a day for the past few months.

Dr. FITZWILLIAMS—I am strongly in favour of water-closets replacing the present system, especially in an institution where children are being taught. How long is the present shortage of water likely to last? I think that eight water-closets are the minimum allowance for ninety people.

COLONEL BEDFORD—I trust that this application for water flushed closets may receive favourable consideration. There may be difficulties in the way, but these are not insurmountable. The amount of water required per head per diem for this service would certainly not exceed six gallons. What is that compared with the amount used in baths and watering flowers? The consumption for this institution for the whole year for this service would be about 219,000 gallons. The yield of rain water on the roof of this institution in the year would be at least 232,000 gallons. If the water authorities definitely say that they are unable to produce sufficient water for this most desirable and, to my mind, essential purpose, could not the Convent be informed that water-closets are authorised if a water supply other than from the mains be found? In my opinion the water-closets and their supply from the mains should be strongly recommended by the Sanitary Board. If the Water Authorities are unable to carry out such a recommendation, they may be persuaded to increase their available supply.

Mr. SHELTON HOOPER—I approve of water-closets for such an establishment as this as being much more sanitary than commodes, but I think less than eight would meet the case.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—As I have repeatedly stated, I do not consider that fixed water-closets should be allowed in the upper levels of the town. The application should be refused. I cannot see anything in the enclosed papers to show that the Italian Convent intends drawing its water supply from public mains, but if so this in itself is a sufficient argument for refusing the application.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK—The commode system cannot be replaced without an ample supply of water. Let the outcry for water amongst the Chinese taxpayers be attended to first. Water from the mains is too precious to be wasted just now.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL—With trouble, and if the architects allow sufficient space, there is nothing offensive in the commode system. In the spring of 1901 it was found impossible to continue a constant supply of water, and this restriction of the water supply has occurred at intervals ever since.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—In the present incomplete state of the water-works of the city a supply from the public mains is inadvisable.

It was decided to refuse the application unless the Convent could provide an independent water supply.

RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The following report of a select committee, appointed to consider the Retrenchment Committee's report, was submitted.

We have considered the proposals of the Retrenchment Committee item by item as enumerated in the list of proposed savings forwarded to us and attach our views below in the case of each item. We are satisfied that savings can be effected as posts fall vacant in the case of

permanent officers and immediately in other cases with the following exceptions:—

(Item 2). We do not agree that \$4,114-\$4,800 will be saved, as Mr. Carter's pension has to be deducted from this amount.

(Items 3 and 4). We are divided in opinion on the subject of the total number of inspectors required, but are agreed that a reduction of inspectors from 28 to 21 is impossible. Dr. Fitzwilliams and the President are of opinion that 25 inspectors are required, as enumerated by the M. O. H. 22 for ordinary duties and 3 for plague, small-pox and other epidemic diseases, also for prevention of malaria and replacements. Mr. Shelton Hooper considers 23 inspectors sufficient. These figures do not include the storekeeper, whose post should, in our opinion, be retained.

(Item 5). We consider the services of the 5th grade clerk cannot be dispensed with owing to the increase of work entailed as a result of the transfer of the markets and the Registration of Births and Deaths to the Sanitary Department under legislation enacted since the Retrenchment Committee made their report.

The following are the proposals of the Committee on the various items, some of which have since been adopted:—

One Principal Clerk not required. Post abolished. One Sanitary Surveyor not required. Post abolished. Officer placed on pension. Sanitary Inspectors (see body of report). One 5th grade clerk required. One telephone clerk not required. Post abolished. Two messengers. Two not required. One post abolished. Six Foreman Interpreters (coloured). Not required. With the abolition of plague inspectors as such, these foremen can be dispensed with. Two already dismissed. Crew of plague barge. Not Required. Discharged. One watchman, Cheung-sha-wan. Not required. Discharged. Ten artisans. Not required. Discharged. One overseer, New Western Market, combined with Central Market. Not replaced. Conveyance allowance. These savings depend on the reduction in staff. Disinfectants. Reduction proposed, as vote was considered too large and was not expended in 1907 and 1908. Light, Central Market. Reduction already effected by new agreement with Electric Company. Rent of District Offices. We agree that the two District Offices should be retained. Central Direct Office already abolished. Uniform for staff. These savings depend on the reduction of staff.

(Sd.), E. D. C. WOLFE

(), G. H. L. FITZWILLIAMS

(), A. SHELTON HOOPER.

The PRESIDENT stated that members would see by the schedule attached that the select committee was in most cases in agreement with the proposals made by the Retrenchment Committee. The only important items were the question of Mr. Carter's pension, and the number of inspectors required. Dr. Fitzwilliams and the speaker agreed with the Medical Officer of Health that to reduce the sanitary staff to twenty-two inspectors would be cutting it down too fine, and they had enumerated twenty-five. At present there were twenty-eight inspectors, 25 on actual work in the Colony and three on leave, and they were of opinion that with a reduction of two the work could be carried on satisfactorily. A further reduction would not only mean extra duties, but treble the duties they had now in case of anybody going on leave. A further question to be dealt with was the question of whether a storekeeper was required. The select committee considered that one was necessary, also that the services of a first grade clerk could not be dispensed with.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK—As regards the post of storekeeper, personally I should say that instead of having an inspector to look after the stores a Chinese clerk well secured and paid \$60 or \$75 a month would be good enough to do the work. I don't think it requires the services of a European.

Mr. HOOPER—What salary does the present man get?

The PRESIDENT—£250 a year. It is four per cent. of the total amount we spend on stores.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Does the man get allowances besides his salary?

The PRESIDENT—I don't think so.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK—And does no other work in the offices?

The PRESIDENT—No. Each inspector who gets stores has a stock book that is sent to me to check. The storekeeper goes through them in the first instance and points out irregularities. He also makes a rough draft of all estimates for stores, which he submits to the Head of the Sanitary Department to check.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Then I understand there is no one between the storekeeper and the Head of the Department?

The PRESIDENT—No, and I may point out that we have been able to save considerably by having somebody directly responsible for the stores. I consider a Chinese clerk, however well qualified, would not be as useful as the type of man we have at present.

COLONEL BEDFORD—Is he responsible for the loss of stores in his custody?

The PRESIDENT—Certainly, and so is each inspector once the storekeeper has issued them.

COLONEL BEDFORD—Is stock of the stores ever taken?

The PRESIDENT—Twice a year, and occasionally surprise visits are made by the auditor.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT thought all members would be glad to reduce the estimates as much as possible, but in view of the enormous amount of duties which the storekeeper had to carry out and the importance of them he thought it was advisable to have a European.

Mr. HOOPER said that as the storekeeper had to make himself acquainted with the market price of small stores, apart from those open to tender, he certainly thought they should have a man of a little higher class and more responsible than a subordinate Chinese.

The Board decided to recommend that the European storekeeper be retained.

The subject of a sanitary surveyor being dispensed with was next discussed.

Mr. HOOPER said they might now discuss the letter from Government informing the Board that they had abolished the office of one Sanitary Surveyor. As there were only two surveyors and Mr. Carter was at home in England on holiday he would like to know whether Mr. Carter had been compulsorily retired or whether he had been given the option of coming back. In that connection he might say that Mr. Carter came to the Colony eight years ago and he had done more for the Department than any other officer. His integrity and uprightness and zeal were an example to the others. Not only that, but he gave up his private time to forming a local branch of the Sanitary Institute, and having worked eight years he went home on leave, expecting to return. The Board were now informed that Mr. Carter had been pensioned off, and as he had reached the age which precluded him from entering government service, that should be brought to the notice of the Government. From information which he possessed he knew that on July 2nd Mr. Carter was not aware that he was not returning to the Colony. If, in the view of the Retrenchment Committee, one officer could be summarily pensioned, he wanted to know why the principle could not be applied to the inspectors whom the Government said they did not wish to retain. He would like that this suggestion should go to the Government.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT said he was very glad that the question had been raised by Mr. Hooper. It seemed extraordinary that the Retrenchment Committee, which, after all, endorsed the views expressed by the Public Health Commission, should have recommended the compulsory retirement of the very best man they had, and that men whom the Commission recommended should be dismissed as soon as possible should be retained without any reason at all. If one man could be pensioned off twenty men could be pensioned off.

The PRESIDENT suggested it was possible that that point had not been brought before the Government. It was probable that they might act on it.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT added that the report had been submitted to them for discussion. The Board was asked to state how many they considered necessary before they could deal with the question of getting rid of inspectors compulsorily. He asserted that if one man could be summarily pensioned that the others could be summarily pensioned. There were a good many lame ducks who could be removed with advantage to the service and the finances.

Dr. FITZWILLIAMS asked if they had any reason for thinking Mr. Carter had not been pensioned at his own request.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT replied that Mr. Carter was not pensioned off at his own request.

The PRESIDENT said he had no information on the subject, but it was news to him to learn that Mr. Carter did not wish to accept the pension.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT replied that Mr. Carter did not know a short time ago he was to be pensioned. He was at home a good many months enjoying his holiday when he was suddenly informed his services were not required. He might have been looking for further employment during those months.

The PRESIDENT asked if any member wished to make a resolution.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT asked that the views they had expressed be laid before the Government.

Mr. HOOPER expressed a similar wish.

The PRESIDENT said a copy of their remarks would be forwarded to the Governor.

Members wished the Press to oblige.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK said he wanted it to be recorded that he supported those remarks.

The Board agreed with the recommendation that one sanitary surveyor was sufficient for the needs of the Colony.

The Board then discussed the recommendation that the number of inspectors be reduced.

Mr. HOOPER said he was not able to agree with the President and Dr. Fitzwilliams, but held the view expressed by the Retrenchment Committee, which included the Colonial Secretary, the Colonial Treasurer, the President of the Sanitary Board and Hon. Mr. Murray Stewart. That committee, after taking evidence, had recommended three inspectors be dispensed with, a view with which he agreed. However, he was prepared to compromise and accept an amendment striking out one. In a mercantile establishment where there was a fairly large staff, when any members went on vacation their duties were distributed over the remainder and he suggested that that principle should apply to the Department. It might be argued that if they had an epidemic of plague or any other infectious disease they would not be able to cope with it, but he might point out that if they were pushed they might borrow from the police, who had acted before as sanitary inspectors. At present they acted as sanitary inspectors in the suburbs and in the districts beyond the jurisdiction of the Board. They were sufficiently intelligent to act in cases of emergency. When plague broke out in 1894 and they had not sufficient staff the military undertook the work, and to maintain a force in time of peace that was equivalent in many cases to that in time of war was, when their finances were so straitened, highly improper. He agreed with the Retrenchment Committee. He thought that two inspectors might go, but if three were proposed he would accept that.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT disagreed with Mr. Hooper in one matter. He thought they should adhere to the original recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee. Epidemics had been exceedingly rare during the past twenty years, and he thought it was absurd to keep reserve men on the staff on the chance of there being wanted once every two or three years. The military had assisted them before, and he thought it was cheaper to pay for the special aid when wanted.

The PRESIDENT did not view with favour the reduction of the staff to 21, and gave figures to support his contention that if this were done the men would not be able to overtake the increased duties cast upon them. He was prepared to compromise and reduce the number to 24, but they should not be reduced to the irreducible minimum. By the proposed reduction they were doubling the duties of the staff, casting upon them plague work and scavenging supervision in addition to their other duties. After detailing the work of an inspector, the President said they could not reduce the staff beyond a certain limit at the expense of efficiency, and he was prepared to recommend that the number be reduced to 24, exclusive of the storekeeper.

Dr. FITZWILLIAMS seconded.

The PRESIDENT added that at present there were 25 inspectors at work in the Colony, and he

was satisfied that each one had a full day's work to perform.

by Mr. HOOPER asked if the arguments adduced in the President had been before the Retrenchment Committee.

The PRESIDENT replied that he did not know how the Committee obtained evidence.

COLONEL BEDFORD endorsed the views expressed by the President and emphasised the necessity of having a certain number of men on leave as they were serving in a tropical climate. The staff might be reduced by sickness. If there were two or three on leave and several sick, what were they going to do? He thought that all reductions should be carried out gradually, and he advised the Board to reduce only one for the first year and see how it worked. Rushing into great reductions was always a danger.

The PRESIDENT moved that in the opinion of the Board 24 inspectors exclusive of the storekeeper was the minimum with which the work of the Department could be carried on efficiently.

Dr. FITZWILLIAMS seconded.

Mr. HOOPER proposed as an amendment that the number be 23.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT seconded.

Only three voted for the amendment and the motion was carried.

Other minor matters were discussed.

With regard to the lighting of the markets, the PRESIDENT took the opportunity of conveying the thanks of the Government to those members of the Board who were responsible for the large saving which had been effected on this particular item.

The report as amended was adopted.

MARKET BYELAWS.

The report of a select committee appointed to consider the question of amending the market bye-laws was submitted.

Mr. HOOPER minuted—I think the police should have access to the markets.

The PRESIDENT stated that he had submitted with the report of the Crown Solicitor, who agreed, to the members of the select committee that the old byelaw, "A sufficient number of police for the maintenance of order in the market, etc." was *ultra vires*, because the Board was not in a position to enforce it. The Captain Superintendent of Police could not be summoned for not obeying byelaws, but it would be arranged that police should be there.

On the suggestion of Mr. HOOPER the standing orders were suspended to relieve the Secretary from reading every clause.

The amended bye-laws were then adopted.

BRUSHWOOD AND MALARIA.

Mr. HOOPER, pursuant to notice, moved:

"That in the interest of the Public Health of this Colony it is desirable for the Government to clear all brushwood from Crown land in the close proximity of dwelling houses which is likely to be detrimental to the Public Health owing to its harbourage of mosquitoes on the ground that the existence of such brushwood is a nuisance detrimental to the Public Health."

"The cost of such work to be paid for out of the Public Funds, and that where such brushwood is on private land the owners be called upon to clear it at their own expense."

In doing so he said that a few days ago he would have thought it superfluous to bring such a motion, because he was always under the impression that where such a nuisance existed owners and people interested could be called upon to abate it. But he saw in the *Daily Press* the other day a notification that that paper was officially informed that the Government were prepared to remove brushwood from their own land at the expense of private individuals. Thinking that there must be something wrong he considered it better to ventilate the matter here. To allow brushwood, which harboured mosquitoes, etc., to remain was a nuisance which was liable to be summarily dealt with by the Public Health Ordinance, and because brushwood was on Crown land it was not free from that Ordinance. Sir Matthew Nathan, when Governor of the Colony, took Counsel's opinion and found that Crown lands came within the measures of the law. Therefore, if there were any places in this Colony in close proximity to private dwelling houses where mosquitoes were harboured and became a menace to public health, it was for the Government to remove the brushwood.

Likewise, brushwood of such a nature on private dwellings should be removed by the owner or occupier at his personal expense. The speaker hoped the Medical Officer of Health would second his resolution. Mr. Hooper here spoke of other insects than the anopheles which were injurious to public health, and thought that was sufficient to show that a nuisance existed, and everyone who did not do all they could to have such a nuisance abated would be wanting in duty. Why had the Government put in this notification asking the public to do it? Was it from a view of retrenchment? He could not think that, because he was given to understand that the removal of brushwood cost nothing. He was speaking subject to correction, because only this week he found that this clearing of brushwood was done under the supervision of the Sanitary Department, whereas he thought it should have been done by the Afforestation Department. He knew of his own knowledge that brushwood on the banks of a stream surrounding an Artillery mess had been cleared by a staff of 150 old Chinese women who got permission to remove it free, and did so because it was a marketable commodity. The only cost to the Government would be supervision by an officer, who would see that the clearers did not damage public or private property.

COLONEL BEDFORD seconded the resolution. What Mr. Hooper proposed was really in accordance with the views which the Military Authorities here had laid down. It had been laid down as a working axiom that no scrub or brushwood other than cultivated plants and flowers should be permitted to exist within one hundred yards of any inhabited military building. This clearance was one of the recognised measures in all anti-malarial campaigns. The speaker quoted figures dealing with the death rate from malaria in the Colony, and said he thought its future malarial history was by no means assured. The Peak at present was comparatively free, but it was unquestionably primary cases that were occurring now. Only a few weeks ago an anopheles was found in Mount Austin Barracks, which was 1,300 feet above sea level. He attributed the present apparent immunity to the simple fact that there were very few natives at the Peak, and especially to the fact that there were no native children, who were a means of spreading malaria. It was only necessary to glance at other tropical island colonies to read a lesson which all in Hongkong should take to heart. Three years ago the 1,400 foot level at Mauritius was practically free from malaria. Now the population there was being decimated by it, and villages are simply becoming waste places. The same thing happened in Madagascar, where the disease spread from terrace to terrace until it got to extraordinary high altitudes, and in the French island of Réunion it had gone up over 3,000 feet above sea level. Therefore he viewed with no feeling of confidence the future of the upland districts of this Colony. For that reason he cordially supported Mr. Hooper's proposal for doing away as far as possible with all undergrowth, because not merely did it afford sheltering places for all the mosquito tribes, but receptacles for an accumulation of water were to be found beneath, and these were nurseries for all varieties of mosquitoes. Again, so long as the ground was shut out from view, they could not tell the course of the nullahs or what marsh lands were underneath.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT entirely agreed with what had been said by the proposer and seconded of the resolution, and reminded the Board that some years ago he brought up this very question in connection partly with the clearing of ground and the draining of nullahs. In connection with the Mount Austin barracks, he previously found that mosquitoes were extremely bad there, but unfortunately the P. M. O., who was then a member of the Board, after visiting the barracks reported that there were no anopheles, and consequently no action was taken.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH entirely endorsed everything that had been said with regard to the absolute necessity for clearing scrub and brushwood. In the present year the Sanitary Department had cleared many thousand feet of brushwood, while on the upper

levels the work had been done by the Afforestation Department. He thought the byelaw dealing with anopheles ought to be amended to cover all varieties of mosquitoes, as there were many diseases, and more were being found day by day, which were traceable to other varieties than the anopheles.

The PRESIDENT pointed out that what was suggested in the resolution was practically being done at present. The notice which appeared in the *Daily Press* the other day was, so far as he was aware, for people who wished brushwood cleared from about their houses at the Peak. The idea was that people could get it cleared at a cost of fifty cents per thousand cubic feet. In all districts where the scrub was known to be a menace to health the work was being done and would be done. The Botanical Department during the present year had cleared 633,690 square feet, while the Sanitary Department had cleared 451,343 square feet from various parts of the city.

Mr. HOOPER thought that whether necessary or not all scrub on Crown land should be removed by the Government at their own expense. The ratepayers paid rates to include that as much as they paid for scavenging.

The motion was carried.

PRESENTATION TO DR. HARSTON.

An interesting little ceremony took place at the Tung Wah Hospital on Saturday afternoon, when Dr. G. M. Harston, who has given gratuitously for four years his services in the ophthalmic department of that institution, was presented with several pieces of beautiful Chinese embroidery on the occasion of his departure for home.

Mr. Sin Tak Fan presided and supporting him were Dr. Harston, the Hon. Mr. Brewin, Dr. Thomson, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, and others.

The Chairman, in stating the object of the meeting, said that for four years every Monday and Friday afternoon Dr. Harston had attended at the hospital and given of his knowledge and skill in order to alleviate the sufferings of the poorer class of Chinese, and the present which he asked him to accept was not given as a reward—as he felt sure the doctor was amply rewarded by the success which had attended his efforts. They wished him *au revoir* and hoped that he would return with renewed health and vigour.

Dr. Harston returned thanks for the magnificent gifts presented to him. He remarked that the department in which he was interested was commenced four years ago in a modest way. It was still a modest department. Last year no fewer than 2,500 operations were performed, over 100 of which were successful. He had thought of the possibility of that department being made to pay for itself, and he would suggest a scheme by which it might be made practical. Persons defective in eyesight were not able to buy spectacles and he suggested that a Chinese lens grinder be obtained who would be able to make suitable spectacles for the patients and also for people outside, who would be able to buy glasses and spectacles much cheaper.

The embroidery bore the following inscription: "Dr. Harston is one of the clever physicians of the West, being proficient in medical science and a specialist for optics. For a period of five years he has been giving his services gratis at the Tung Wah Hospital, and those who owe him a debt of gratitude for recovery of their eyesight are of no insignificant number. Now, on the eve of departure for homeland, we, in recognition of his valuable services which nothing can adequately requite, respectfully subscribe ourselves to this scroll as a token of our esteem and regard. (Signed) The Directors of the Tung Wah Hospital. The Committee of the Po Leung Kuk, and the Gentry and Merchants of Hongkong."

"In his application of the jade chips and cinnabar."

His merits lustre as the sun and the stars like the benevolent cloud and the magic shower.

May his virtue over the globe ever tower."

Tea was afterwards served.

A DUTCH SQUADRON VISITS HONGKONG.

The Netherlands East Indies Squadron is seeing Hongkong at its best and both officers and men seem to be enjoying their visit. On Aug. 30 the Division Commodore G. F. Tydeman made his official landing from the flagship *De Ruyter*, accompanied by Captain Mitchell Taylor, A. D. C. to His Excellency the Governor. The Commodore stopped ashore at Blake Pier, where a guard of honour drawn from the Buffs, carrying their colours and accompanied by the band, received him with the usual salute, the band playing the Dutch national anthem. After inspecting the guard of honour the Commodore, with his aide-de-camp, and Mr. J. H. de Reus, Dutch Consul, proceeded to Government House, where they were received by His Excellency. In the evening they were entertained to dinner by Sir Frederick Lugard.

Tuesday being the anniversary of the birthday of Her Netherlands Majesty Queen Wilhelmina, the Dutch community celebrated the occasion in a befitting manner. The Netherlands East Indies squadron dressed ship and the Consul, Mr. J. H. de Reus, was at home at the Consulate and received calls not only from the representative of H.E. the Governor but from his colleagues and fellow subjects. In the evening the Dutch community entertained the officers of the squadron to dinner in the Hongkong Hotel. This is the largest gathering of Dutchmen that has ever assembled in Hongkong.

On Wednesday H.E. the Governor entertained Commodore Tydeman, commanding the Dutch squadron, to dinner at Government House, and the following were invited to be present:—Commodore, Mrs. and Miss Lyon, Mr. Blanchflower, Commander Acton, Commander Board, Lt. Commander Heathcote, His Excellency General Sir J. Machado, Senhor Cinatti, Captain Norton, Mr. Moxon, Colonel and Mrs. Payard, Colonel and Mrs. Chamier, Captain Almeida, Colonel Dumbleton, Mr. and Mrs. Edkins, Mr. Bonnar, Mr. H. W. Slade, Mr. Tomkins, Colonel and Mrs. Lambert and Miss Lord, Consul-General J. H. de Reus, Mr. and Mrs. van Hou'en, Mr. Woldringh, Mr. Bisschop, Lieutenant Albarda, A.D.C. to Commodore Tydeman, Captain P. H. van Voorthuysen, H.N.M.S. *De Ruyter*, Captain J. W. Termyte'en and Lieutenant C. J. van der Hogge Spies, H.N.M.S. *Tromp*, Captain F. Pinke and Captain-Lieutenant A. H. C. Heydeman, H.N.M.S. *Koningin Regentes*.

It was intended that the squadron should visit Canton, but it was deemed advisable to delay the visit until a more opportune occasion, as the new Viceroy has not yet taken up office, and the cruisers left here on Thursday for Amoy, the merchants of which have great trading relations with Java, and thence sail for Shanghai and Taku, afterwards visiting Kobe and Yokohama. It is expected that the squadron will return here in the early part of November for five days.

WHERE WEIGHT TELLS.

DISADVANTAGES OF HEAVY MEN.

Another case in which two chair coolies refused to accept a fare came on for hearing before Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy on Aug. 31, when Mr. Ross, of the Public Works Department, prosecuted.

Complainant informed the Court that he hailed the defendants' chair near the Peak Tram Station, and intended proceeding to Bowen Road. As soon as the coolies saw him approaching they attempted to run away, but he overtook them and took the number of the chair.

One of the defendants raised the excuse that he had a sore leg.

His Worship informed the defendant that not only they, but nearly all the chair coolies in the Colony, were carrying on in this way. As soon as they saw a heavy man approaching them they attempted to make off. Each defendant would be fined \$5.

THE CHAPMAN EVANGELISTS IN HONGKONG.

Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman and Mr. Charles M. Alexander and their party of evangelists, numbering over a dozen in all, arrived in the Colony on Aug. 30 from Australia by the N.Y.K. steamship *Kumano Maru*.

Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman and Mr. Charles M. Alexander have been together in evangelistic work for two years past. They are said to be exact complements of each other in their work. Mr. Alexander prepares the audience for Dr. Chapman's message and the preparation is quite as essential as the word which follows.

Dr. Ford C. Ottman, a member of the party, is a very close friend of Dr. Chapman, and has assisted in various of the latter's evangelistic undertakings in recent years. Dr. Ottman has never devoted himself exclusively to evangelistic work, but for the past twenty years has been known as a very successful pastor-evangelist. His pastorates have been in Newark, New Jersey, and in Stamford, Connecticut, where he has ministered to important congregations. His Stamford church, knowing his desire to be with Dr. Chapman upon this tour, proposed that he continue as their pastor and they would vote him a year's absence on leave. He, however, felt it would be better to resign outright, and he has been very greatly used in the Australian meetings. He is also the business man of the party and in general takes charge of the arrangements of the tour.

Mrs. Charles M. Alexander is a worthy help-mate to her distinguished husband. She became acquainted with Mr. Alexander during the progress of the Torrey-Alexander mission in England some few years ago. Mrs. Alexander is a daughter of Mr. Cadbury, the owner of the great Cadbury chocolate industry, and was brought up in a home of wealth. She has been earnestly engaged in Christian work from her childhood.

Mrs. Alexander speaks at a great many women's meetings and devotes herself very particularly to the work of the Pocket Testament League, which she founded. This league enrolls those who carry with them a pocket edition of the New Testament with which is also usually bound the book of Psalms.

The party of which Dr. Wilbur Chapman and Mr. C. M. Alexander are the leaders held the first of two meetings in the Theatre Royal on Aug. 31, but the attendance was not large, the weather militating against indoor gatherings. However those present seemed to be inspired by the presence of the missionary band. Mr. Alexander used his wonderful voice with rare effect, both in speech and song, and the audience enjoyed being taught to sing a number of new hymns. Perhaps the most interesting and at the same time amusing incident was when Mr. Alexander declared that the hymn books placed on the seats belonged to him but that he would give one to anybody who would sing correctly a chorus just introduced to the assembly. At first it looked as if no one would accept the challenge, but eventually two gentlemen and a lady stood up and sang the chorus. "There now," said Mr. Alexander, "I've lost three books." Another vocalist rose in the gallery and a fourth book was won. After song and comment by Mr. Alexander, and a rendering of one hymn by Mrs. Asher, Dr. Chapman delivered a brief serious discourse which was closely followed and the meeting concluded with more music.

A larger audience faced the missionary party on Sept. 1st when his Lordship the Bishop of Victoria presided and extended a welcome to the evangelists. Mr. Alexander introduced several hymns and as usual acted the part of choir-master. He comments freely on the words of the hymns and makes frequent use of Bible references which he does not elaborate, leaving the auditor to supply the text. For instance he will mention "John three and one," but he does not give the words. Mr. Wilbur Chapman is undoubtedly an impressive speaker and his remarks last night, brief though they were, gripped his hearers. He illustrated the theme that "love never fails." Mrs. Norton contributed a solo, Mr. Alexander conducted another song service, and Mr. Davis gave an address regarding the work of the new Testament League, followed by Mrs. Alexander.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 30th August.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
(SIR F. PIGGOTT).

EXTENSIVE THEFT OF OPIUM.

A special session was held for the trial of the three men and a woman concerned in the theft of a considerable quantity of opium. The three men were charged with stealing from the s.s. *Kutsang* on the 13th July 164 balls of Benares opium, the property of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and the woman was charged with receiving it well knowing in to have been stolen. The Acting Attorney General (Sir Henry Berkeley, K. C.), instructed by Mr. Dennys, who appeared for the Crown, said he would not offer any evidence against the third defendant and that his friend Mr. Alabaster would conduct the prosecution in his absence. Mr. Alabaster was instructed by Mr. Shenton, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon. The first and fourth defendants (the latter being the woman) were defended by Mr. Eldon Potter, instructed by Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, the second defendant (the quartermaster) being undefended.

The jury was empanelled as follows: Messrs. J. C. Gow, A. Krantler, E. Jacobs, J. P. Douglas, W. M. Humphreys, P. Davidson and R. L. Brown.

The facts were outlined by Mr. Alabaster, from which it appeared that seven men approached the *Kutsang* about midnight in a sampan and on getting close to the steamer the first defendant and three others went up the gangway. The second defendant, the quartermaster of the steamer, met them on the gangway and received money from the first prisoner, after which they passed on and entered the hold. One of the three men remaining in the sampan climbed the rigging and in that position received the bags of opium which were handed him through the cargo port. Finally the four men returned to the sampan and were rowed off. Shortly afterwards the quartermaster gave the alarm to the officer on duty that "thief man have come." He pointed to three junks as having been concerned, but suspicion fell upon him and on the arrival of the police he was taken into custody. Subsequently the first prisoner was arrested and then followed the recovery of the opium in the woman prisoner's lighter, whence it had been transferred from the sampan, and the arrest of the others.

Evidence was called and the hearing adjourned.

The case was continued in which two men and a woman stood charged with being concerned in the theft of 164 balls of opium, valued at \$4,000, from the s.s. *Kutsang*.

The Chief Justice said it had occurred to him that a great deal must turn on whether it was possible to prise open the hatches of the steamer, and he had therefore arranged that the jury should go on board and make an inspection with the assistance of the officers of the vessel.

Mr. Potter said he had a point to raise which, if upheld, might save the trouble of visiting the ship. It was that there had been no identification of the alleged stolen property. It was necessary when the charge was larceny that it should be proved that the goods, which were the subject of the charge were in fact in the ship at the time the larceny was committed.

His Lordship said that was a point for his consideration later.

The jury then left the Court and proceeded by launch to the steamer.

When the jury returned,

Mr. Potter dealt with the question of identification of the opium and argued that there was no evidence of proof that the opium found on the cargo boat was ever on board the *Kutsang*. There being no such evidence, the prosecution must fail. It must be proved that the opium came off the ship. It might be that somebody from Calcutta saw it taken from the ship.

His Lordship—Then there would never be a thief imprisoned. There is no law especially applicable to larceny on board ship.

Mr. Potter—There is a special provision and special punishment.

His Lordship—Then all the thief has to do is to drop it overboard.

Mr. Potter—If he is seen dropping it overboard that might have a bearing on the matter.

His Lordship—Your contention comes to this: that there being a special provision in the law to protect shipowners from thefts on board ship, it is so drafted that it makes it impossible to prove a theft.

Mr. Potter—Not at all. There is no witness who could prove that the opium found in the cargo boat was even in the *Kutsang*. I admit it is only a technical point, but technical points will, as your Lordship knows, overthrow an indictment. It is an accepted proposition of law that where the evidence against any prisoner is only the evidence of an accomplice or accomplices, the learned judge presiding would withdraw the case.

His Lordship—Unless it is corroborated.

Mr. Potter—Yes, my submission is that it is not corroborated.

His Lordship—I think there is sufficient corroboration.

The first prisoner was found guilty and sentenced to five years' imprisonment with hard labour, and the second (the quartermaster) was sentenced to seven years' hard labour, while the woman was discharged.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR FRANCIS
PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

INSURANCE CLAIM FOR OIL.

Judgment was given in the action in which the Tung San Wo firm of Shanghai claimed from the Po On Marine Insurance and Godown Company, Limited, of Wing Lok Street, the sum of 7,000 taels said to be due on 350 packages of ground nut oil. Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. R. A. Harding, appeared for the plaintiffs, while the defendants were represented by Sir Henry Berkeley, K. C., and Mr. D. McNeill, who were instructed by Mr. A. Holborow (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker, and Deacon).

His Lordship in giving judgment, said—The questions raised in this case take up the points which were not fully gone into in my judgment in *Hip On Insurance Company v. Hang On Insurance Company*. The goods were insured on board the s.s. *Shao Hsing* from Shanghai to the port of Canton. The policy contained a "risk of craft" clause. The ship was moored to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's pier-wharf opposite their godowns at Honam. The goods, oil in baskets, were put into lighters, some on the water side of the ship, some across the wharf into lighters. In each case the oil was weighed by or on behalf of the consignee and the lighters were hired by the consignee. The usual Custom House formalities were fulfilled either on the ship or on the wharf with a day's delay on account of the Emperor's birthday, though the unloading of the cargo was continued during that day. The cargo consisted of 550 baskets of oil, and 200 of these were sold to a customer out of the lighters. On these facts the question arises whether the "risk of craft" clause in the policy cover the oil so landed. I do not think that it appears very clearly whether all the 350 baskets were landed overwharf, but in the view that I take of the law this is immaterial, and I shall assume that it was. On behalf of the defendants it was contended that the overwharf transhipment into lighters constituted a landing, and Lord Justice Bowen's dictum in *Houlder v. Merchants' Marine Insurance Company* was relied on. He said, "Landing goods means putting them upon the land, or upon that which by the custom of the port is its equivalent." I have no doubt that by "equivalent" was meant wharf or pontoon. But the case there was whether the "risk of craft" clause covered the goods in the lighters during transhipment to another vessel, and the use of the words "safely landed" in connection with that clause meant clearly that the craft covered by the risk must be craft used for the purpose of landing and not craft used for the purpose of transhipment. The dictum illustrates this argument; but in view of the circumstances in which it was used it cannot be stretched so as

to conclude a case, such as the present, where the question is the fact that goods have touched land temporarily in the process of landing somewhere else a landing within the meaning of the policy? Lord Justice Bowen was considering the question of transhipment, something which happened before the landing; the land, so to speak, lay in the distance beyond the transhipment; and a broad general proposition sufficed. But when we get to the land, other questions may arise not foreseen which require special consideration and which cannot be concluded by a general proposition in the absence of such consideration. And this is necessitated by the facts of this case. I agree that "landing" means "landing," but *Strong v. Natally* is an authority for saying that the words "safely landed" mean what they say, and if the goods have to be landed in a lighter the risk covers the transit to the shore in the lighter in normal circumstances. "Risk of craft" is a clause introduced since the day when the early cases were decided, and if it is inserted in the policy makes the matter still more plain. But it introduces some special considerations of its own. I am of opinion that insurers are bound to know the conditions of the trade which they insure. The fact that Messrs. Butterfield and Swire do not take oil into their godown seems to me to be irrelevant; a consignee is not bound to put his goods into the nearest godown: the fact that some well known oil godowns were across the water must or should have been known to this insurance company, and I think that even without this clause were it necessary so to decide, but certainly with it, the intention of the parties clearly was that in the process of landing lighters would be used: further, that "landing" means "putting the goods upon the land or upon that which is its equivalent by the custom of the port," "where, in the clear intention of the parties, it was intended that the goods insured should be landed, and so the voyage terminated. If, therefore, according to the practice of the wharf," which is a much more suitable expression in the circumstances than "the custom of the port," it is necessary, in order to get to the lighter, to tranship overwharf, then it is not landing but an incident of the voyage, which is not concluded until the craft has completed it by taking the goods to the shore. The interference of the consignee at the scales does not bring the case within the other doctrine, which deals with the termination of the voyage by the consignee's own action, which I shall refer to presently. Clearly, weighing the baskets as they went into the lighter did not terminate the voyage. I am fully alive to the fact that the law, as I am laying it down, might be somewhat severely tested if a typhoon or tidal wave were to arise suddenly and destroy the goods while they were in process of transhipment on the wharf itself. But should such a case arise I am not afraid that the logic of the proposition, as I have enunciated it, would be equal to the task of deciding the case. A small point may be here referred to. It was suggested that while Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's wharves were in the port of Canton, the oil godowns were not. It could not be put higher than a suggestion. I am satisfied that what lies in or about the port is included in the port if shipping or goods in lighters usually go there, and that in this instance what was done was fully covered by the intention of the parties. I now come to the use of lighters, and I do not think the law is very clearly stated in *Arnould*. I shall first deal with the authorities. *Sparrow v. Carruthers* decides that if the consignee sends his own lighters for the goods there is an end of the voyage, but that it was otherwise if the goods were sent on shore by the ship's boats, or presumably the shipowners' lighters. I notice a possible anomaly which might arise, supposing the ship itself to have been chartered by the consignee, which does of itself show that the law was not quite clearly established then. But this case was doubted in *Hurry v. Royal Exchange Co.*, though it appears to have been set up again in *Strong v. Natally*. But in *Hurry's* case distinction was drawn between a public and a private lighter. The public lighters in question were described by Justice Rooke as being "publicly registered, in short, that sort of lighter which is equally known to the

underwriters and the owner of the goods." It is to be observed that the reason for the distinction between public and private lighters seems to have been based, not on the ground that the goods had passed into the custody of the consignee, which was expressly pointed out to be an unsound distinction, but whether the risk of the underwriters was increased by using lighters which might perhaps not be well-fitted for dangerous or unusually risks operations, as the landing in that case seems to have been. In *Strong v. Nataly* an ordinary lighterman was employed; but the underwriters were held discharged, not because the consignee had hired a lighter, but because he had "dispensed with the obligation of the lighterman to take charge of them during the night, and took them into his own custody." He had discharged the lighterman, and placed himself in the same situation as if the goods had been actually landed and delivered: and having so done he might have kept them in the lighter for a week, for he had as much control over them as if they had been in his custody for that period. In *Paul v. Insurance Co. of North America* Justice Matthew said that *Sparrow v. Carruthers* was an extraordinary decision to arrive at, so agreeing with the judges in *Hurry's* case. He seems to have thought the same of *Strong v. Nataly*, which, I think, may be supported on another ground. He added that the "risk of craft" clause must cover carriage in a hired lighter, and why should it not also cover it in a lighter belonging to the assured, the person most concerned for the safety of the cargo? There seems to be a definite principle derivable from these cases. A hired lighter is within the meaning of craft, in the "risk of craft clause": the much-doubted case of *Sparrow v. Carruthers* draws the distinction, not between private and public lighters, but between a hired lighter and the consignee's lighter. But if the putting them on any lighter can be construed into taking possession of the goods by the consignee in such a way that it is tantamount to terminating the normal course of voyage, that is by ship plus lighter from the ship to the shore, then the risk has terminated too. Applying this to the facts of this case; undoubtedly the voyage, and so the risk, was terminated in the case of the 200 baskets sold from the lighter. So, too, if on the evidence I come to the conclusion that the consignee intended, not to store the remainder in the godown, but to sell them before storing, and for this purpose to store them temporarily in the lighter, then the risk would also have come to an end. That he would have sold them if a customer had come along is clear, but that is not the question; I must be satisfied that he did in fact so delay the transit to the godowns in the lighter, as to amount to a taking control of them for purposes other than those incidental to the voyage, of ship plus lighter. This brings me to the last point of delay. The landing must be in reasonable time: this point differs somewhat in detail from a deliberate termination of the voyage. I think, as I have already said, that I am bound to hold that the risk covered the transit by lighter to one of these godowns, and that it must further include such delay as is involved by the normal process of landing the oil into these godowns. Now, here again, there is one clear case where delays would release the underwriter. Supposing one of the godowns, or even both were full, and the lighterman lay alongside, hoping for a chance of getting his oil taken in, clearly the risk could not cover such a case. But suppose that in the normal course of things the lighterman, or the consignee, applied for space, and he was told, not that space would be reserved beforehand, but that there was room, and his boatload would be attended to in due course, i.e., suppose it were first come first served, always coupled with a promise that he would be served, then I am clear that this would be in the normal course of business, and would be covered by the risk. Now I am going to make a short cut through the evidence. The plaintiff's agents in Canton were in the habit of storing their oil in quantities of 200 to 400 baskets, sometimes even of much smaller quantities. The defendants want me to believe that in this case they were going to depart from, I will not say their usual custom, because that is not proved, but from what they very frequently did. I put the matter on one side; I am not bound to go fur-

ther than to say it might have been given by Mr. Ho without authority. But the godown manager wants us to believe that no application of any sort, kind or description was made, and that the plaintiffs' agents deliberately lay alongside so as to keep the lighterman his full period of hire in the chance of selling the oil, and never intended to store it at all. The examination of the godown book as to the amount of work done by the godown on the days in question, as well as the answers I succeeded in getting from him as to the normal course of work at the godown wharf, so entirely bear out the story told by the plaintiff's witnesses, that I am compelled to accept the plaintiff's story. I, therefore, give judgment for plaintiff with costs.

Mr. Slade asked for interest on the money out of which they had been kept for a long time.

His Lordship—The Court has discretion to give interest.

Mr. Slade—Yes, I don't ask for it as a right.

His Lordship—What are the facts?

Mr. Slade—We had to sue them in order to get our money and the order should carry interest.

His Lordship—I don't think this is a case in which I can give interest.

Mr. Slade—The money was payable under a contract, and they have kept the money in their own hands, and have had the benefit of it up to this time.

His Lordship—I don't think I have ever given interest.

Mr. Slade—I suggest your Lordship amends your procedure in this case. It is laid down in the old statute of William the Fourth, which was passed to remedy the obvious defects in the law.

His Lordship—I will hear what Mr. McNeill has to say.

Mr. McNeill submitted that it was in his Lordship's discretion.

His Lordship said he would consider the point in chambers. The costs of the commission were also reserved.

Wednesday, September 1st.

CRIMINAL CONVERSATION—VERDICT.

The hearing was continued of the action in which Captain T. A. Mitchell, of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., proceeded against John Lemm to recover \$15,000, general moral damages, and \$17,187.23 special damages for money paid and payable in connection with divorce proceedings in Edinburgh was concluded.

Sir Henry Perkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. H. W. Looker (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) appeared for the plaintiff, while the defendant was represented by Mr. M. W. Slade, who was instructed by Mr. P. M. Hodgson (of Messrs. Ewens and Harston).

The jurors were:—Messrs. E. J. Hughes (foreman), J. W. Bolles, E. Shellim, Northcote, G. C. Moxon and E. H. Hinds.

Mr. Slade, in opening the case for the defence, reminded the jury that they were bound to give their verdict according to the evidence. That meant according to the evidence as it was given in the Court and not according to such rumours, insinuations or stories which they might have heard outside. In a little place like Hongkong it was almost impossible for seven men to be got together to adjudicate upon a case which had excited any public interest at all without their having heard a number of stories, rumours and insinuations against one party or another which necessarily had an effect upon their minds. If they had heard stories to a man's discredit for years past anyone was inclined to think badly of him. But when they came into a court of law and they were on their oath as jurymen they must endeavour to do that exceedingly difficult thing—to look at the evidence from a detached point of view and to endeavour to consider that evidence fairly and get rid of such prejudices as they might hold. The facts of the case were not very long or complicated. Mrs. Mitchell and Mr. Lemm made each others' acquaintance on board the steamship which carried them both from Australia to Hongkong in the year 1898. They were both born in New South Wales and had lived for the greater portion of their lives in that Colony. They had not met before, but it appeared that their respective fathers were friends, and that Mrs. Mitchell knew Mr. Lemm's father. So

there was a family connection, so to speak—certain amount of community of interest between them. Mrs. Mitchell was travelling with her 10 year-old daughter and Mr. Lemm was with his wife and two children. The two parties became friendly and in due course they reached Hongkong. Mr. and Mrs. Lemm went to live in a house at Robinson Road, Hongkong, and the families continued on friendly terms. The first Mrs. Lemm had been represented to the jury as an invalid. Captain Mitchell had made rather a point of that. It was true in a sense, but not in the sense in which the observation was made to the jury. She was a lady of weak health undeniably, but during the time she was in Hongkong she was never laid up more than a day or two at a time, and she was always going about and living the ordinary life of a lady of her position in the Colony. The climate did not agree with her, undoubtedly, and she was by no means robust, but they could not say that she was an invalid in the sense of being materially incapacitated. In November, 1898, Mrs. Lemm's health broke down, and it was decided that she and her children should go to the healthier climate of Australia. Consequently, Mr. Lemm was left alone in his house in Robinson Road, but it was too big for him, and he and Mr. Watkins arranged to mess together in Kowloon, where it would be cheaper to live; Mr. Watkins had taken the house No. 8, Granville Road, and Mr. Lemm got a tenant for his house in Robinson Road, as the wife of the outgoing tenant was ill and could not leave the house at the stated time; Mrs. Mitchell, who was then staying in Granville Road, offered Mr. Lemm her spare room, and he stayed with her for 24 or 25 days until his house was ready, meanwhile the two gentlemen had made arrangements with Mrs. Mitchell to take their meals or have them sent over. Later in the same year the mess was increased by the addition of Mr. Frederick Lemm, Mr. Lemm's brother. That was the arrangement which continued during 1899. What was the evidence that adultery had been committed? The evidence was that Lemm stayed for almost a month in Mr. Mitchell's house. She was not alone. She had with her her daughter, and if a man went to live in a married woman's house under such circumstances and was suspected of adultery, then Heaven help poor unprotected men! It was ridiculous to ask the jury to believe those two people were guilty of impropriety. There was no more efficient chaperon for any woman than her own daughter, a girl of eleven or twelve years. They could hardly conceive a woman so depraved as to venture to do anything improper which might come to the notice of a girl of such tender years. There was not the slightest secrecy about the arrangement. It was known to Captain Mitchell, who dined with them and who expressed his approval, as it gave Mrs. Mitchell an opportunity of increasing her income, as they were not too well off at that time. There was not a jot or tittle before the jury to prove familiarity of any kind between Mr. Lemm and Mrs. Mitchell. It had only been shown that they had been often in company. There had been no evidence of any endearing expressions, or kissing or embracing, yet the jury were asked to infer from the fact of those two people being together that they had committed adultery. If they got rid from their minds of the overwhelming prejudice against Lemm, they could not fail to come to the conclusion that there was no evidence of guilty relations between the parties. Tracing the course of events in 1900, Counsel referred to the ricscha incident, which Captain Mitchell had dressed up for their consumption. Captain Mitchell said he came up from the south on a Sunday night, and the ricscha came up to the house after Mrs. Mitchell and he had retired. But Mr. Lemm was then living in Granville Road, three doors off, and there was nothing extraordinary in his calling at the time. Captain Mitchell said nothing at the time to Mr. Lemm about the incident. He had dressed it up for the consumption of the jury. He was undeniably hostile to Mr. Lemm and was determined to recoup himself at Lemm's expense for his costs in connection with the divorce. His imagination had come to the help of his memory, and the result was the story he told them. Mr. Slade then criticised the statements of the "willing friend," Captain

Major, who remembered opportunely in the box events which he failed to narrate three years before when under examination. He asked them to do their duty as jurymen and to find a verdict according to the evidence, and he submitted they could not give any weight to the evidence. There was a long gap, and no evidence of adultery was alleged in the years 1901, 1902 and 1903. There was no allegation of misconduct until October, 1904, when the first visit to Macao took place. Apparently the attitude of Captain Mitchell was to charge Mrs. Mitchell every moment she was in the Colony with adultery with Mr. Lemm. Counsel then referred to the "extraordinary incident" when Captain Mitchell met Mrs. Lemm in the middle of Queen's Road weeping. Why should she select Queen's Road in which to weep? She was living in Kowloon. Counsel described the story as incredible, and ridiculed the story told with regard to Eranee Villa. Captain Mitchell had left his wife and made her a very small allowance. What more natural than that her fellow countryman should assist her? The old messing arrangement was practically revived. He took French lessons along with the daughter, and they also decided to learn shorthand together—doubtless a pleasant occupation, as she was a charming girl.

John Lemm, the defendant, was then called. He stated that he was an architect practising in this Colony, which he left in December last for a holiday. At Honolulu he received a telegram stating that Mitchell had obtained a prohibitory order against his lands.

His Lordship said he would tell the jury that Lemm did not keep out of the way, and that the plaintiff did not unnecessarily press the case.

Defendant then stated he came to the Colony first in 1889, when he came up from Sydney accompanied by his wife. On the voyage he met Mrs. Mitchell, whose relatives he knew. His wife and he continued on friendly terms with Mrs. Mitchell. He met Captain Mitchell later. His wife left for Australia in November, 1898, with her children. Witness then bore out the statement of Counsel with regard to the letting of the house and the messing arrangements. Witness denied having ever committed adultery with Mrs. Mitchell, and explained the ricscha incident by stating that when he got out of the ferry his brother informed him that Captain Mitchell was home, and accordingly he stopped his ricscha at Mitchell's house in order to call. Captain Mitchell came downstairs in his pyjamas and they chatted together in the drawing room, Mrs. Mitchell later coming downstairs.

Mr. Major says he has seen you going into Mrs. Mitchell's house during her husband's absence at all hours of the night and he watched and saw that you did not come out until the early hours of the morning. Is that so?—No. It can't be true?

Why can't it be true?—It is not true that I came in the early evening and left in the early hours of the morning. It might be that we had been to the theatre and I had gone in to have a cup of coffee or something.

Were you a frequent visitor at the house?—Yes.

Were other people frequent visitors?—Yes. Watkins would come along sometimes, as well as my brother and his wife.

And the visits were returned?—Yes, frequently.

Witness stated that when he visited Macao on the first occasion with Mrs. Mitchell they were ill at the time. He wrote in the register, "Mr. Lemm, Mrs. Mitchell and friend." He thought "friend" was a joke, because Mrs. Mitchell used to say that her daughter was the only friend she had, and he would then ask "where do I come in?" The signature had apparently been altered since, but the alterations had not been made by him. Witness never visited Mrs. Mitchell's room during their stay, nor did she enter his room. Mrs. Mitchell and her daughter slept together. Witness then spoke to the second visit to Macao, when Mrs. Mitchell and her daughter occupied the room they had done before. He occupied the adjoining room.

Look at that signature, "J. Denning?" Did you write that?—I have written J. Lemm and the H. K.

What alteration has been made?—The "L" has been made into a "D," part of the first "M" is destroyed, and other letters added.

Was that change made by you?—No. Part looks like Mrs. Mitchell's.

It has been suggested that you committed adultery with Mrs. Mitchell on that occasion. Is that true?—It is not true.

Was there any concealment about your visit?—None whatever.

It has been suggested that you paid for Mrs. Mitchell?—No, it is not so. Mrs. Mitchell on the October visit gave me the money to pay her account.

And on the other occasion?—We each paid our own account.

Witness stated that in 1905 he took his meals at Eranee Villa. He considered Mrs. Mitchell badly treated, and he went there for dinner in order to help. Mrs. Mitchell tried to make a little money by selling Chefoo lace and the daughter by selling paintings. They were deserted by all their friends. He visited them in order to have French lessons with Miss Mitchell. They also painted together, witness working in water colours, and Miss Mitchell in both. She sold pictures—some to Mr. Mody.

Nothing else?—For shorthand. Miss Mitchell had learned shorthand at school and I went through the first book of Pitman's Shorthand with her. I am afraid I don't remember very much about it now.

How old was Miss Mitchell?—In 1905 she was 16 or 17 years. She was 21 last May.

Was she a good looking girl?—Yes, very bright and very clever.

Were you on friendly terms with her? Do you like her?—Yes, it was as much in her interest as her mother's that I helped them.

Witness was then questioned as to his daily routine and to his habits at Eranee Villa. He denied that he took his liquors in Mrs. Mitchell's room, or that he entered her room in his pyjamas; neither was there any truth in the charge that he had committed adultery with her on 1905 in the months stated.

Is that a good likeness of Mrs. Mitchell?—A very flattering likeness.

Was Mrs. Mitchell, to use a vulgar expression, a lady who wore well? Did she retain her good looks?—She never was good looking in my opinion.

Had she deteriorated very much in appearance?—Very much.

Sir Henry Berkeley then cross-examined witness.

You know that Captain Mitchell is divorced from his wife?—I understand so.

You gave evidence on commission before the Registrar on her behalf?—Yes.

You know that Captain Mitchell in the proceedings for divorce charged his wife with adultery with you?—And three or four others. Yes, I believe so.

You know it?—I don't remember seeing any document.

You know as a fact that you were charged?—I suppose so.

Not suppose so. Didn't you give evidence explicitly denying the allegations?—Yes.

Therefore you knew the charge was made and you denied it?—Yes.

Before the Commission you categorically denied the charges of adultery against you?—Yes.

Did you take any steps to have yourself made a party to the proceedings in Scotland?—I did not.

His Lordship—You are getting on delicate ground. You can't make the slightest use of the proceedings in Scotland.

Sir Henry Berkeley—I am not going any farther.

Witness was next questioned as to the visit to Macao. He denied going with Mrs. Mitchell to Macao. He met her on the steamer.

Do you mean to say you did not know Mrs. Mitchell was going to Macao on that occasion?—I did not.

It was a mere coincidence?—It might have been.

Mr. Slade—There is no charge whatever made with regard to this.

Questioned as to a man named Castor having slept in Mrs. Mitchell's house, witness said he informed Captain Mitchell of the occurrence. He believed the man had since died. Captain

Mitchell was mistaken when he said witness had not told him he slept in his house.

You deny that?—Yes.

Not because you feel bound to protect the honour of the woman?—It is not.

Captain Mitchell swears falsely when he says you did not tell him?—I cannot help what he swears.

Why didn't you go to a hotel instead of going to a room in this lady's house?—Because I had furniture to store.

Why didn't you store your furniture and go to a hotel?—It was more convenient to do as I did.

Did you not think it was likely to hurt the good name of the lady?—I didn't.

Would you have done it if you thought it would?—It never struck me.

It never struck you?—Half the ladies in Kowloon keep boarders.

Their husbands reside in Kowloon?—Yes.

Witness spoke to Mrs. Mitchell coming to his house to arrange pictures. He had an office there, where he worked frequently in pyjamas, but he always dressed and went downstairs to receive her.

Questioned as to the statement of Captain Major that he heard defendant whistle on approaching Mrs. Mitchell's house, and that there was an answering whistle, witness denied that there had ever been any whistling.

Can you whistle?—Yes.

Do you say that when Captain Major swears he heard you whistle and heard an answering signal that he swears falsely?—Somebody else might have whistled.

His Lordship—Did you whistle?

Witness—I have known Mrs. Mitchell eleven years and there has not been any whistling.

Witness denied that he entered Mrs. Mitchell's house late at night, and asserted that Major could not have seen the entrance to the house if he were lying on the verandah of his house. Witness denied that when he called at Mrs. Mitchell's house on the night of the "ricscha incident," the boy said in a warning tone "Master have come." He came from St. Peter's Church that night. He was a regular churchgoer. He denied that his visit was made with a view to adultery. Witness married a second time in 1902, but he did not live happily with her. She suffered from hallucinations and alcoholism. She did not upbraid him with being too familiar with Mrs. Mitchell. He had said he would like to be separated from her.

On arch 8th he received a letter from Captain Mitchell stating that they would cease to meet as friends.

Notwithstanding that you visited her when she came back?—His letter covered himself; not her.

How do you reconcile that?—It might have been indiscreet, but I was her only friend, her only true friend in Hongkong. You said that one of your reasons for going to this lady's house was because she was deserted by everybody?—Yes.

I put it to you that that desertion was due to the improper relations between yourself and her?—Probably due to rumours.

Due to rumours?—Jealousy.

Were the ladies jealous of you?—I took them out to the theatre.

What do you mean? Are you a lady's man? I won't press that. You admit that the desertion was probably due to unfounded rumours of improper relations between you and her?—I suppose that was it. People's evil imaginations.

Do you not think that a man like you, of whom the other ladies were jealous, constantly going to this lady's house was not likely to create this feeling in the neighbourhood?—I don't understand you.

You took this lady to Macao?—We went over to Macao.

You took her there? I did not pay for her.

You did not pay for her?—Well, I paid for her on the steamer.

Sir Henry Berkeley—Then I am right this time. You did pay for her?

His Lordship—Not at the hotel?

Witness—No.

Sir Henry Berkeley—Not at the hotel?—No.

Not the cost of a small lunch?—No.

You took the ladies to Macao and did not pay for their lunch?—I did not take them.

You innocently took the ladies to Macao and did not pay for their lunch?—They paid by the day.

Do you expect us to believe that you took a party of ladies to Macao and made them pay their hotel expenses?—I did not pay.

You paid their fares?—Yes, the same as I would any other lady.

Any other lady?—Yes, any lady I know.

Mr. Marques says you paid the chits?—I paid my own chits.

You paid her chits?—She gave me the money.

I put it to you that you signed the chits "John Lemmert"? I never signed a chit in any other name but my own.

The hearing was adjourned.

Thursday, September 2nd.

His Lordship asked defendant—When, if ever, during the period of which we were talking, did you live on the Hongkong side?—I have never lived on the Hongkong side since February, 1899.

Sir Henry Berkeley—I understand you to say that you had paid Mrs. Mitchell's servants at Erance Villa \$2 a month?—I gave all the servants.

These servants of Mrs. Mitchell's in 1905?—I paid every servant up to the time I went away.

In 1905?—She must have had half a dozen servants.

Each of them you gave \$2 a month?—I gave the head boy \$2 a month.

The man whom you did not recognise said in his evidence that you paid him \$2 a month. Have you any reason to believe that he was one of the servants?—I don't recognise him.

Re-examined—My friend asked you as to whether or not there were rumours and stories being told generally in the Colony with regard to Mrs. Mitchell in and about 1905, and asked you whether in the circumstances you were not indiscreet in being so often in her company?—Yes.

And her friends had deserted her?—Yes.

When did these rumours start?—After the divorce proceedings were initiated.

When did her friends begin to desert her?—I should say while she was still in Rose Terrace. I think it was sometime in 1904 when her friends began to desert her.

Before or after the divorce proceedings?—After the publication of the divorce proceedings in the papers. Then they began to snub her and stop calling, more especially after the charge against Ledbury for perjury.

You say your second wife was addicted to drink?—Yes. She went to hospital in January, 1904, and remained there for a month, leaving on March 4th for Australia.

The jury wished to know if defendant could produce rent receipts for the time he lived in Granville Road.

Defendant said he could not do that, as Mr. Watkins had leased the house, but he could produce messing accounts for that period.

The jury expressed a desire to have Mr. Watkins called.

Mr. Slade said he had been approached by both sides and was extremely unwilling to come forward.

Defendant said it would affect Mr. Watkins' business to be mixed up in such a case.

A juror—Did the ricscha incident occur in June or July?

Sir Henry Berkeley—In June.

Mr. Slade—No, that is disputed.

The Chief Justice said Mr. Watkins should be called.

A clerk from the Harbour Office produced a ledger showing the entry and departure of vessels, but after certain questions had been asked it was discovered that the book was for 1901 instead of 190.

Mr. Slade said they had tried to put all the evidence they could before the jury. Mr. Watkins could not be found, but the time spent in clearing up the question when the *Fausang* arrived had been well spent, because it enabled them to arrive with practical certainty at the Sunday on which Captain Mitchell had arrived and on which the ricscha incident took place. Captain Mitchell's memory was singularly unfortunate, as on that day he did not return from Java, and indeed never made a trip to Java that year. It has been suggested that when Mr.

Lemm visited the house that night he contemplated a clandestine visit—that he would not have gone there had he known Captain Mitchell was at home. Captain Mitchell was supposed to have returned two days earlier than expected from a trip to Java, but it was shown from the records he was not making long trips to Java. He could not very well be two days early on a trip from Hongay. Proceeding, counsel said Captain Mitchell's memory had failed him. He was labouring under what he conceived to be a wrong. He believed the tittle-tattle which had gone round the Colony, and he believed that Lemm and his wife were guilty of misconduct. The fact that he believed that should not weigh with the jury. It was perfectly obvious that Captain Mitchell was mad with jealousy of Lemm. The tittle-tattle of the old cats of the neighbourhood was no doubt drummed into his ears. His memory had been stimulated and his imagination had caused him to believe what he imagined to be the truth. Dealing with Major's evidence, he said that his memory had been fortified by his imagination. It was extremely unlikely, had he known in 1900 the events which he related later, that he would have concealed them from the wife of his bosom, and it was extremely unlikely that the wife of his bosom would have concealed them from her dearest friend, more especially if the dearest friend had been bound to the utmost secrecy. A choice bit of scandal against Mr. So and So's dearest friend! Why, that was too good to be kept to herself, and round it would go, gathering strength at every repetition. Think what a lovely story it would make—Mr. Lemm daily passing the house whistling amorous tunes to the lady indoors and she replying. It would have made a lovely story! Who could have refrained from telling the story? Then they would have told how Mr. Lemm crept round there late at night and was never seen coming out again, although watch was kept until early hours. Couple the two together and they had a fine bit of scandal. People in this Colony were not open-minded and uncensorious enough to continue the acquaintance of a lady whom they believed to have been guilty of such flagrant acts of foolishness and indecorum. The evidence of both Captain Mitchell and Captain Major was discredited. Counsel said he would ask his Lordship to put specific questions to the jury as to the allegations against those two people—questions as to each group of dates. The suggestion that Lemm had committed adultery with Mrs. Mitchell in the presence of her daughter was disgusting, and he argued that the jury could not find on the evidence that Lemm and Mrs. Mitchell were guilty of misconduct. If the jury convicted in such a case, then there was no safety for anybody. On the question of damages—if they came to consider it—they should not inflict punishment upon Lemm, but should seek to compensate Captain Mitchell for the loss he had sustained owing to the acts of Lemm. Neither should they pay any regard to the divorce proceedings. All they knew was that a divorce had been granted, but whether on account of Lemm or others they were not aware.

Sir Henry Berkeley, addressing the jury, said it was for them to consider not merely the acts of the parties but their entire conduct. Referring to the messing arrangements, he admitted that if a woman were pressed for money it might be allowable for her to take in boarders, or even a single man into a room, but no married woman acting innocently would take a man into her house to sleep there and conceal the fact from her husband. That was the crux of the question. Any husband in Kowloon or Hongkong, who if he had known what Lemm admitted he did, that he frequently visited this lady, would have stopped it. Sir Henry contended that what Lemm admitted he did would have been stopped had it not been that her legal protector was at sea, and he submitted that the jury would come to the conclusion that advantage was taken of the absence of her husband to reduce the affection of the woman until he obtained such a control over her that she would do almost anything he asked her. It had been ungallantly suggested that the woman did not wear well, that she was not as good looking as she once was, but there must have been an attraction, otherwise Lemm would not have visited her as he did. When two virile persons threw themselves together there was

danger in propinquity. Given attraction, given propinquity, given opportunity, there was the danger.

The Chief Justice, in summing up, said it had been stated that the case had been discussed in the clubs and throughout the Colony. If that were so it was the duty of the jury to put an end to the rumours and find the fact one way or another. That was the privilege of jurymen—to end so far as gossip was concerned what had been admitted to be a scandal for a long time. He had hoped that they had not formed an opinion, and he hoped that what he said would not lead them to form an opinion. He had to dwell on certain points and to assist them as a brother jurymen. Proceeding, he explained the necessity for that question, which had been debated in the Scotch courts, having to be debated again. As Captain Mitchell was a domiciled Scotsman the only place in which he could go for divorce was Scotland, and the procedure was so difficult that Mr. Lemm could not have been made co-responsible to these proceedings. The question before the Scotch Court was whether Mrs. Mitchell had committed adultery with Mr. Lemm and three others, and none of these people were subject to the jurisdiction of that court. Mr. Lemm was entitled to a fair trial at their hands, and only on the facts presented must they draw their conclusions. There was an advantage in their having to try the case, inasmuch as it might be—he did not wish to be disrespectful to those people in Scotland who came to a conclusion on this question—that that Scotch jury took rather a severe view of people going to Macao on Sunday. A Hongkong jury would better appreciate the value of the facts put before them. His Lordship directed the jury to leave the question of special damages, because he was rather puzzled on the law at present, but if plaintiff was entitled to them by law he would get them. As to general damages they must give him fair compensation for the loss of the comfort and solace of a wife. They must dismiss from their minds the idea of giving him any damages which would set him up for life or which would include costs to which he had been put by the Scotch proceedings. If he were entitled to those damages he would get them.

The jury retired at four o'clock to answer the five questions, based on the five heads in the particulars, set by his Lordship.

After an absence of half an hour the jury returned. They unanimously found the defendant guilty of the charges specified at 4 and 8, Granville Avenue, at 4, Granville Avenue, at 6, Rose Terrace, at the Boa Vista Hotel on both occasions, and at Erance Bungalow. They assessed damages against defendant at \$7,500.

Mr. Slade asked for a stay of execution in order to consider the question of the preliminary point on which his Lordship had given judgment.

His Lordship asked how long a stay was wanted.

Mr. Slade replied three months, as they wished to consult opinion at home.

His Lordship—There is the point of special damages, which I shall take in chambers.

Mr. Slade said the jury had found against defendant on a point on which no evidence had been offered.

Sir Henry Berkeley thought a fortnight was long enough to allow them. There was plenty of counsel in Hongkong who could advise them.

Mr. Slade replied that it was a very abstruse point.

Eventually his Lordship allowed a fortnight's stay of execution.

Mr. Bolles asked that the jury be exempt for several years.

His Lordship said he was afraid other parties would like their services.

"I told him to wait until pay-day, and he wouldn't," a defendant told Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on Sept. 2 when charged with assaulting a rent collector. The defendant, it appears, owed five months' rent, and when the collector called as he was having his mid-day meal, and demanded an immediate settlement, the tenant threw a basin of rice at his head. His Worship imposed a fine of \$25, the alternative being one month's imprisonment.

ALLEGED ADULTERATED BRANDY.

The hearing of the summonses against Mrs Meyer, of the Colonial Hotel, Tai Sing, compradore, Queen's Road Central, and Chuen Chung, compradore, Arsenal Street, for selling brandy not of the nature demanded, was continued at the Magistracy on Aug. 30 before Mr. F. A. Hazeland. The defendants were also summoned for selling adulterated brandy.

Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, prosecuted in all the cases; Mr. John Hastings defended Tai Sing and Chuen Chung; and Mr. P. S. Dixon from Mr. R. A. Harding's office, represented Mrs. Meyer.

Mr. Frank Brown, Government Analyst, was recalled and re-examined by Mr. Bowley. He said he did not agree with the statement that if brandy contained a small quantity of alkaline the standard of ethers would be reduced. Witness produced particulars of several experiments he had made of brandy of good and fair quality. He was acquainted with the brandy prosecution which took place in London in 1905 after the publication of the paper referred to by Mr. Hastings.

Mr. Hastings objected to the evidence.

His Worship—You object to me hearing this, but what about the book you produced at the last hearing?

Mr. Hastings said he put in that book in cross-examination, which he was thoroughly entitled to do.

His Worship said the witness had a perfect right to treat the statement as an expert.

Mr. Bowley contended that his Worship was entitled to hear the quotation read, as in police court cases journals such as the one in question (the *Analyst*) were referred to frequently.

Witness said the standard of ethers in brandy had been fixed in England at eighty parts, and this had not been appealed against.

Mr. Hastings, after reading the *Analyst*, said he had no objection to his Worship having it read, as it rather supported his contention.

In cross-examination witness said he was of opinion that if he had used Kent water, which contained 20 grains of alkaloid per gallon, the result of his recent experiments would have been the same: that was because the natural acidity in the brandy would neutralise the alkalidity of the water.

This closed the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Hastings, in opening the defence, asked his Worship to take the case of Tai Sing first. That firm had been in the Colony for fifty years, and had never been troubled in any way by the police or anybody else for carrying on trade in adulterated liquors. They kept all kinds of brandy, from the best to the lowest priced brands. The inspector deliberately chose the cheapest kind of brandy, and the speaker suggested that he must have known that he was not getting the best kind at the cheapest price therefore, there could be no prejudice whatever at the time of the sale. The brandy bought by the officer was used as a cooking brandy, and was bought by his clients from a German firm with whom they had dealt for several years. It had been admitted by the prosecution that the sample produced was not deleterious to health, and further it had been admitted by them that the article had not been adulterated by any undue proportion. The only complaint was that the spirit of the brandy was made from substances other than the juice of the grape. He submitted that alcohol could be derived from many sources. The prosecution had no right whatever to say that only substances derived from the grape were to be called brandy. With regard to the experiments made by Mr. Brown, he submitted that they were not made in a proper manner, and, therefore, should not be taken notice of.

Mr. S. Spurge, an analyst in the employ of Messrs. A. S. Watson and Co., was called to the witness stand. He testified to having had a considerable experience in testing brandy and other spirits. In his opinion it was not possible in the present state of knowledge for an analyst to say with certainty the source from which a spirit in any sample of brandy was derived, as the spirit might be derived from various sources. He had seen Mr. Brown's certificates with regard to the present case, but he thought it was impossible to pass the opinion that the brandy was

not derived from the juice of the grape from facts mentioned by Mr. Brown in his certificate.

The Magistrate, after hearing further evidence, reserved his decision.

AN EXTRADITION CASE.

SOLICITOR OBJECTS TO MAGISTRATE'S WARRANT.

Before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on Aug. 30 the case concluded in which the Chinese Government applied for the extradition of Sun A Wan to China on a charge of armed robbery.

Mr. H. L. Dennys, Sen., from the office of the Crown Solicitor, made the application on behalf of the Chinese Government, while Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Kong Sing, when the evidence concluded, asked his Worship to note a few points which he intended to raise on behalf of the prisoner. The first was that the provisional warrant issued by his Worship on July 14th was bad, inasmuch as the information was insufficient to justify the warrant. His next point was that the arrest on August 10th was illegal, inasmuch as the prisoner was in illegal custody from the 4th to the 10th August, and that the arrest took place in the jail while the defendant was in illegal custody. Although he had not seen the information, Mr. Kong Sing submitted that his Worship could not have been in possession of sufficient information on August 14th to justify him issuing the warrant he did. On the date mentioned the witnesses in the case had not arrived in the Colony, and Mr. Dennys did not know what the evidence was going to be. In support of his contention Mr. Kong Sing referred his Worship to the judgment in the *Iu Kai Shing* case, and more particularly to the part which dealt with the form of warrant issued by the magistrate in the case. With regard to the arrest he could not quote any authorities, but if the warrant was bad the arrest must be bad, and all the proceedings thereafter. He submitted that on August 4th it was his Worship's expressed intention to discharge the prisoner on the first charge preferred against him. The speaker appeared before the Court on August 4th, and the requisition was not forthcoming. He submitted that his Worship, in remanding the case for another week, held the defendant in illegal custody, as the prisoner was entitled to his discharge on the date mentioned. If a man was discharged he was entitled to his freedom, if only for a moment. The defendant was never out of custody. He was rearrested in the jail, within the precincts of the Court, and that was illegal. His Worship reserved his decision.

DEATH OF MR. I. E. ELLIS.

The death took place on Aug. 31 at his residence, Pedder's Hill, of Mr. I. E. Ellis, perhaps the oldest member of the foreign community. Deceased, who was in his 80th year, was held in the highest respect and esteem by all who knew him. He came to the Colony over fifty years ago, when the city was of much smaller proportions than at present, and joined the firm of Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Coy., in whose service he remained until declining years made him leave his desk on pension. He celebrated his diamond jubilee last year. His widow survives him and his sons, daughter and grandchildren mourn his loss. He was a good friend to the poor. The funeral took place on Wednesday morning. The coffin was carried from the house to the hearse by his sons and grandsons, who performed a similar office at the cemetery. There was a large attendance of mourners. The deceased leaves a widow, three daughters, three sons, twenty-three grandchildren and ten great grandchildren. He was born at Bagdad in 1831 and learned what little the country could teach him. Subsequently he moved to Bombay, and after a period of service in the firm of Moses and Co. was transferred to their Shanghai branch, where he remained for five years. Health reasons determined his return to Bombay, but three years later he came to Hongkong and joined the firm of Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Co. The journey between the

two ports at that time occupied seventy days. He saw the business grow to its present dimensions and his death removes a charming and interesting personality.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LACK OF EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AT THE PEAK.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—I quite endorse the opinion expressed in the letter from "The Children's Friend," which appeared in the *Daily Press* a few days ago, bringing as it does before the public the lack of educational facilities at the Peak; also those given in your leader on the same subject, a few days after.

As a matter of fact, I do not think there is much doubt in the minds of most of us, and especially of those parents with young children, that a school of some sort—a kindergarten for choice—is greatly needed by the residents at the Peak, and I for one thoroughly appreciate the efforts of a few in taking the initiative and wishing others to give their views with the ultimate object of inducing the Government to consider the question of a suitable school.

Although there apparently have not been a great many supporters in the shape of letters to the papers—which I put down to British dislike of rushing into print and not to a lack of interest in the subject—yet I firmly believe that if the opinion of the Peak residents could be taken by some such method as a circular letter, for instance, there would be a large majority in favour of the proposed institution; and possibly some of our neighbours other than British might take advantage of the opportunity thus afforded by sending their children to it as well.

There are at present amongst us a few families that possess European governesses, and the fortunate children in these cases are no doubt well taught; but, at the same time, the tuition can probably scarcely be compared with that which would be given by a scientifically trained Kindergarten Mistress from Home.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

COMMON SENSE.

2nd September, 1909.

KULANGSU (AMOY) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council, held at the Board Room, on the 10th August.

Present:—Messrs. W. H. Wallace (Chairman), W. Kruse, Lim Nee Kar, J. Mancarini, S. Okuyama, W. Wilson, the Health Officer and the Secretary.

THE SAMPAN QUESTION.

A further communication was read from the Haifangtung concerning sampans. The Council saw no reason for altering their former decision in this matter, conveyed to the Haifangtung in their letter of the 29th July last.

As the Haifangtung's object is merely to keep a record of respectable men plying for hire the Council decided to reply that they would be happy to supply him with a list of the Kulangsu licensed sampanmen, together with their registered numbers, should he desire same, and, in case of necessity, assist him and his officials in the future, as they have done in the past, consistent with the provisions contained in the Land Regulations and Bye-Laws.

POLICE REPORT.

The Captain Superintendent of Police reported that the following cases had been dealt with at the Mixed Court since the last meeting:—
Summons: Breach of Slaughter House Regulations, 2; throwing rubbish, &c., into the public drains, 4; allowing pigs and cattle to stray, 3; improper use of police whistle, 1; assault, 9; burying a corpse without a permit, 1; kidnapping, 1; debt, 7; quarrying without a licence, 1; permitting gambling, 1; encroaching on land, 3; obtaining money under false pretences, 1. Summary arrests: Offering for sale meat unfit for human food, 1; theft, 5; being in possession of counterfeit coin, 1; assault, 3; obtaining money under false pretences, 2; being abroad after 12 midnight without a light, 1; being in unlawful possession of firearms, 1.

THE CANTON CHRISTIAN COLLEGE.

The Canton Christian College has been located for five years on Honan Island, two and one-half miles east of Canton. Here it has become a community by itself, with its buildings clustered on a slope overlooking the Pearl River to the north and the White Cloud range beyond. From the crowded city far on the left the view sweeps down the busy river to two stately pagodas on the right, and blue hills may be seen to the south across the narrow thread of the river's lower reach.

This site, now covering about forty acres, is therefore an auspicious one for the growth of a college for South China, and, as its name suggests, the South China College is the first, and as yet the only, school in Kwangtung that attempts to do work of collegiate grade. Incorporated in 1892 by the Regents of the University of the State of New York as an inter-denominational Christian college, and with five years of experience in temporary quarters in Canton and Macao, the school made a vigorous start on its permanent site, and has not ceased to grow in equipment, efficiency and usefulness.

A large brick and reinforced concrete building was at once erected at a cost of \$40,000 gold, and this furnished a chapel, seven class-rooms, two laboratories, rooms for bookstore, library and offices, leaving one entire floor for the rooms of the unmarried teachers. The building was planned to be proof against fire and ants, and to secure the largest benefit from the south-eastern breezes now blowing straight through the wide open rooms which are only one deep and connected solely by the broad verandahs on the north and south. It was also intended to fit into a carefully planned architectural lay-out which allows for another building of the same sort on the west with a separate chapel building between at the head of the avenue of approach.

Mr. Chung Wing Kwong, Chu Jen, the able head of the Chinese department, has secured from officials and other Chinese gentlemen subscriptions for over \$35,000 Mex. toward the \$60,000 needed for two permanent fireproof dormitories, and the first of these is to be begun at once. This will be one of a group, each housing 110 students and 5 teachers, to be erected behind the space reserved for college halls. Money has also been set aside for the immediate building of two permanent teachers' residences, and the first will be under way this summer. As these buildings are completed they will be occupied by the student body and a part of the teachers now living in temporary structures.

The two appointments just made in New York will add one to the number of the resident staff in the fall, making it eight beside the College Physician and the second doctor of the University (of Penn.) Medical School, who will also reside on the compound. President C. K. Edmunds is now at home on furlough, and expects to return some time in 1910. Another member of the staff will also return from furlough next year. Mr. W. K. Chung, who has organized and directs the work of the Chinese department, is also a full member of the faculty. In addition, there are six Chinese instructors, two of them graduates of our own Preparatory School, and five student assistants.

With this force, the College is giving tuition to 170 students, divided into an Elementary School with one class in two sections, a Preparatory School of four classes, and a Freshman class in the College Department. The aim is to separate the two Schools and the College as soon as practicable, but at present they are in many particulars treated as a whole, all being required to attend chapel, in the morning in English and in the evening in Chinese, and the Freshmen only being exempt from military drill in uniform. The whole school is under military discipline in charge of the Commandant, a member of the foreign staff. To control the behaviour of the students when it does not come under the notice of the staff, and to encourage the spirit of self-Government, there is a Self-Control Association of all the students, with a regular system of laws and fines, and an Appellate Judge on the faculty.

The work of the College is definitely planned to fit students to become Christian men—leaders of the Chinese people in advancement. Proficiency in the Chinese language and literature is therefore insisted upon before graduation from the Preparatory School, and every effort is made to secure an increasingly thorough life preparation in this most important side of a Chinese youth's education. The knowledge of Chinese required for entrance to the Elementary School (the minimum age is 14) is considerable, and Chinese (including Mandarin) is continued throughout this school and the four years of the Preparatory School. In the Elementary School 16 hours a week are devoted to Chinese language and literature, 8½ hours to Western subjects in Chinese, and 10 hours to English. In the first year of the Preparatory School 9 hours are given to Chinese, 21½ hours to Western subjects in Chinese, and 21½ hours to English subjects. In the second, third, and fourth years 9 hours are assigned to Chinese and 24, 20, and 20 respectively to English subjects. Furthermore, while a few students enter with advanced standing in the study of Chinese and so finish their required work before the fourth year, no student is allowed to take English work in a class higher than that in which he is studying Chinese.

All of the foreign faculty and two of the Chinese teach in English. The English subjects have been carefully organized and co-ordinated with a view to developing proficiency in the use of the English language and giving a broad training for life. The Bible is taught throughout the entire course—for the first 2½ years in Chinese, and thereafter in English—one-half a day being the time given to this in the Preparatory School. English grammar is finished in the third year Preparatory, and the following year rhetoric and composition are studied with chief emphasis on reading courses in Dole's American Citizen, Ball's Starland, and some of the English literature required for entrance to American colleges. English literature is continued in the Freshman year chiefly as a preparation for study in America, but those intending to take the University Medical School course may substitute biology and another science for literature.

Ancient history is covered in the fourth year Preparatory, the history of Western Europe (medieval and modern) in the Freshman year, and English constitutional history is offered in the Sophomore year. A further course in present day problems in the Orient is offered in the same year, for those who wish to elect it, instead of analytical geometry. Elementary American history is required for summer reading early in the course, and historical matter divides with geography and elementary science the reading work throughout.

The latest methods have been adopted in the study of mathematics. After the completion of arithmetic, algebra and geometry are studied together, and during the first semester of the Freshman year trigonometry is given. Short courses in elementary science in the third year Preparatory lead up to a thorough laboratory course in Chemistry in the Freshman year and in Physics in the Sophomore year. The laboratory equipment for both of these courses is very complete. Physiology is taught in the fourth year by the College Physician.

An interesting phase of the work that has grown up during the last year is the manual training. The Chinese are obviously in great need of instruction in how to use their hands, and they need encouragement in the development of practical manly qualities as well as respect for labour and independence. So a small class in carpentry, a persevering group much interested in practical gardening, and a somewhat larger number in a class in photography have been working industriously and in close intimacy with several of the teachers. Beside this, a short time was spent with one class in plane table map sketching of the surrounding country. But especially important has been the formation of the Students' Bank of the Canton Christian College. This is organized like a corporation, with the usual officers and shareholders, and depositors can withdraw money only by cheque. The students have shown much interest in the undertaking, and it bids fair to be one of the

most useful organizations in the College. It is hoped also that it will be made use of by the coolies and villagers nearby, when its policy is understood.

When students will take up manual training, it may be assumed that athletic sports are very popular. Before breakfast all appear for setting up exercises, and between five and six in the afternoon all are expected to take regular exercise in some form. Football and swimming are the favourite pastimes, but other sports are not neglected.

The students at the Canton Christian College have been perhaps more generally touched by foreign ideas than those in many parts of China. Exactly twenty-five per cent. of them are now without queues, though not all of these wear foreign clothes. The desire to study in American is also very general. To facilitate the personal touch between teachers and students one hour on Friday evening is left free for voluntary visits in the teachers' rooms.

On Sunday morning the student body is divided into group Bible classes led by the foreign teachers and three of the Chinese, and these are followed by a preaching service in Chinese for the whole school, or in English for the higher classes, and in Chinese for the lower. This direct religious work is very much assisted by the Student Young Men's Christian Association, which is wholly in the hands of Chinese. Aside from the curriculum Bible study, ninety students are studying the Bible in Chinese in nine voluntary classes, led by as many of their own number. Sunday evening meetings attract many that are not Christians, and some of these are also active in teaching in a nearby village school. The reading-room and a village teacher are supported by the Association, and some members also engage in occasional evangelistic work.

Although the tuition fee in the Preparatory School is now \$70 a year, and the total cost outside of travelling expenses and clothing is from \$204 to \$240 a year, the number of applicants for admission is rapidly increasing, and were there dormitory space enough a much larger number could be taught. It is planned gradually to raise the standards and increase the number of classes in the College proper. The University (of Penn.) Medical School, affiliated, will probably offer its first courses in the autumn, and when practicable the College will begin teaching pedagogical and engineering subjects.

These, then, are the things that the Canton College has accomplished, and the plans that it confidently hopes to realize in the near future. During the year not a single student left to enter another school in South China except when requested. With such material to work upon, and it is of the best, some assurance may be felt that this institution will be of ever enlarging usefulness and Christian service to the Chinese people. *Educational Review.*

A CUTTING AND WOUNDING CHARGE.

A native, who was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on Aug. 31 with cutting and wounding a countryman, had a strange story to tell of the cause which led up to the quarrel. It appears that three men whom he knew slightly informed him that they intended to establish themselves as a gang of pickpockets. The defendant approved of the scheme and wished to join the partnership. But the trio, it was stated, declined to admit him, notwithstanding that he demonstrated to them that he was fairly expert in the light-finger business. The men quarrelled and the defendant drew a knife which he plunged into the complainant's hip. The latter was removed to hospital, where he has been treated for several days. The defendant, it was discovered, had several previous convictions for pocket-picking, and had not long returned to the Colony after five years' banishment. He informed the police that he had been living on what he removed from other people's pockets since his return, but had not been so successful as in former days.

His Worship, on hearing the evidence, sentenced the accused to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

SHIPPING NOTES.

The North German Lloyd has sold its steamers *Bayern*, *Sachsen*, and *Preussen*, which were constructed in 1886, to Italy. The steamers were engaged in the trade to the Far East.

The Pacific Mail Steamship Company and the Toyo Kisen Kaisha (San Francisco lines), commencing with the sailing of the s.s. *Siberia* from Hongkong on October 1st, will quote the same rate of passage from Manila to San Francisco, points in the United States and Canada, and also points in Europe, first-class, intermediate and second-class, as are now quoted by these Companies from Hongkong.

A notification published at Shanghai regarding the removal of Aids to Navigation in the old Ship Channel over the Woosung Inner Bar, and alteration in Aids to Navigation in Gough Island (Astraea Channel), states that owing to the rapid shoaling of the Channel leading over the Woosung Inner Bar, all Aids to Navigation in that Channel will be removed on the 15th of next month, while on or about the above mentioned date a number of important changes are to be made in the marking of the Astraea Channel. This practically means that the old Ship Channel will be closed to navigation from the 15th Sept., and that the Astraea Channel will be alone available for steam navigation from that date.

Answering a question in the House of Commons as to whether in any one single instance the Russian Government had indemnified a British shipowner for the sinking of his vessel by Russian warships during the war in the Far East, Mr. McKinnon Wood said: In the cases of the *St. Kilda* and *Ikhona* the Supreme Prize Court at St. Petersburg has decided that the owners of these vessels are entitled to compensation. As regards the *Ikhona*, the Libau Prize Court has assessed the compensation for the destruction of the vessel at, roughly, £62,000, but the Russian Government have intimated that, in view of an appeal which has been lodged in respect of a small portion of the claim, no payment can be made until after the appeal has been heard. The Libau Court will no doubt assess the damages to be paid in the case of the *St. Kilda* in due course.

Since the introduction of the import duty in Eastern Siberia, it has frequently happened, Messrs. Kunst and Albers inform us, that masters of vessels bound for Vladivostok and Nikolajevsk do not comply with the Russian Customs regulations and that the shipping documents for cargo to be discharged at Vladivostok and Nikolajevsk are not made up in accordance with the regulations—a series of inconveniences equally awkward for the Custom-house, for the ship's agents and the ship's company. In many instances heavy fines have been the result of these offences. Upon arrival of a steamer the Captain has to present to the Custom-house the ship's documents (ship's register and articles), manifest of all cargo, a complete set of bills of lading, which are to be signed by the captain or the agent at port of shipment, passenger list with number of pieces of luggage, a complete list of stores and provisions. The master has also to sign a so-called Captain's Declaration, and to state in the same amongst other data:—The number of packages to be discharged as per manifest, all goods and—or articles on board not manifested nor stated in the store and provision lists. After this declaration has been signed by the Captain, the vessel will be searched by the Customs' officers and if any goods and—or other articles having a merchantable value are found that have been hidden or have not been recorded in the manifest, Captain's declaration or store and provision list, such goods or articles will be treated as contraband. It is a general rule that nothing should be hidden and everything declared. The Bills of Lading must contain:—Marks and numbers the same as shown on the goods. The number of packages, the nature of packing (whether cases, casks, &c., the term "packages" not being admissible), a proper commercial description of the goods (general terms such as "merchandise," "drugs," &c.,

not being admitted). The gross weight. (Note: The total gross weight and the total number of packages of each B. of L. should also be given in letters, not in figures only). The Manifest should give a proper specification of the goods as shown in the bills of lading, and the current numbers of the latter should correspond with the manifest. The manifest is to be signed by the agent at port of loading and a spare copy should be supplied for agent's use. All erasures or alterations in the Bills of lading and—or manifests should be avoided altogether, else same have to be authenticated at the port of shipment by the Port Authorities: bills of lading made out to "Order" or "Bearer" must be endorsed by the shippers. The importation of the following articles is altogether prohibited:—Playing cards [Chinese and Japanese included.] Margarine produce, pork and all preserves, sausages, &c., made of pork. Patent medicine [unless special licence granted].

The judgment in the Chinkiang collision case has now been rendered by the German Consular Court, Dr. Ney, President, and Messrs. Zickermann and Lundt, Assessors. This was a suit brought by Melchers and Company and the Norddeutscher Lloyd against Captain Goertz, owner and master of the s.s. *Ascania*, which vessel ran down and sank the plaintiff's hulk *Bremen* in February last. The Court decided in favour of the defendants, and in the written judgment, which is several columns in length, the grounds given are *force majeure*, there being an undercurrent running at the time of which the defendant could have had no knowledge and carried the *Ascania* against the *Bremen*. Although no announcement has been made officially, it is understood, says the *Shanghai Mercury*, that there is every likelihood of an appeal to Leipzig.

PLAGUE EPIDEMICS IN HONGKONG.

No case of plague having occurred in the Colony during the past ten days clean bills of health are again being issued.

The epidemic this year has been a very mild one.

The annual Medical Reports laid before the Legislative Council last week give the following information regarding the epidemic of 1908. In the joint report of Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer, and Dr. W. W. Pearce, Acting Medical Officer of Health appears the following:—

There was a recrudescence of this disease during the year 1908, the total number of cases recorded being 1,073 as compared with 240 in 1907 and 893 in 1906. It has frequently happened that years of mild and severe plague in the Colony have occurred alternately, so that the 1908 epidemic may perhaps be more justly compared with the 1906 than the 1907 outbreak.

Although in 1908 an excess of 180 cases over the number of known cases in 1906 were notified, it is quite possible that the 1908 epidemic was in reality not so severe as the 1906 one, as in 1908 it appeared on enquiry that many fewer cases of plague left the Colony.

If this be true it may be explained by the establishment of plague hospitals under Chinese management and by the adoption of less severe measures in disinfection, causing less disturbance of family life and business.

The total number of deaths from plague was 986, of which 29 were from the non-Chinese population and 957 amongst the Chinese. This gives a case mortality of 91.9 per cent. for Chinese and 90.6 per cent. for the non-Chinese cases.

The following table shows the number of cases and deaths according to nationality:—

	Cases.	Deaths.
Chinese	1,041	957
British	3	1
Eurasian	2	2
Indian	4	4
Japanese	5	5
Malay	1	1
Portuguese	10	10
Filipino	2	2
Jewish	4	3
Cingalese	1	1
	1,073	986

Mr. R. O. Hutchison, writing as Head of the Sanitary Department, says:—

As will be seen from the Medical Officer of Health's Report the outbreak of plague during the year was severe, there being 1,073 cases as compared with 240 in 1907 and 893 in 1906. Further attempts have been made to secure the co-operation of the Chinese in anti-plague measures. This has been fairly successful largely owing to the work of the Public Dispensaries and Street Committees in explaining to the people the reasons for these measures. The advantage of keeping cats as an anti-plague measure has been impressed on the people, and now practically every house in the Colony possesses one or more cats. The Chinese are also now doing their own rat-catching, the Sanitary Department merely providing materials and collecting the rats. This system was not in working order till September, but since then the number of rats returned has been very satisfactory. The recommendations of the Indian Plague Commission are being carefully followed and several changes have been made in the use of disinfectants, etc. All these changes tend to make disinfection less distasteful to the Chinese.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

THE NEW GOVERNOR.

The successor of Senhor Rocadas will be Senhor Eduardo Marques, who is now Governor of Timor. He is expected here in the course of the next fortnight. Senhor Rocadas will leave for Angola shortly after his successor arrives.

MORE TAXATION.

The commission appointed three years ago to take the measurements of the land occupied by each house in the city have presented the first instalment of their report, which suggests that twice the amount of the present revenue ought to be obtained from the taxation of this property. The Fazenda has jumped at the idea and has lost no time in imposing increased taxation, giving the owners a month in which to appeal if they dispute the assessment. The owners know that they stand little chance of success against the Fazenda. A petition will be presented probably to the new Governor against the new taxation. It is strange that the Government does not clearly see how taxation has throttled business and brought the Colony to its present state of decadence. Most of the gambling monopolies on which the Government has relied in recent years for a large part of its revenue have ceased to possess any value in the eyes of the people, who were formerly eager to lease them. Taxation has driven capital out of the Colony, and there is no hope for a revival of business here while the Government exacts the present taxation and is ever on the lookout for ways of increasing it.

NO MONEY FOR WAGES.

Of the employees of the Leal Senado only the street coolies have received their wages; the others are still whistling for theirs. When are they all likely to be paid? And, where is the money coming from? Some months ago I referred to the necessity for reducing the numbers in the pay of the Leal Senado. It does not seem that anything material has been done in that direction.

GUNS FOR THE NEW RIVER GUNBOAT.

Telegraphic instructions have been received by the Government from Lisbon to remit £1,900, the cost of the guns that are being sent out for the new river gunboat *Macao*.

THE HARBOUR WORKS.

I have previously said that I have very little faith in the progress of the undertaking for the improvement of the harbour. A fortnight ago authority was telegraphed from here authorising the purchase of a dredger at Kiaochaou, but nothing has been heard of the matter since. What does it mean? What has become of the 89 *contos* assigned to defray the cost of dredging operations?

A NEW FORT.

A fort is to be constructed on the hill east of the Taipa fort. The guns from the dismantled *Rio Lima* will be placed there.

LOCAL SPORT.

BOXING CONTESTS.

Seldom in the annals of boxing has such a splendid evening's entertainment been provided as that which Mr. R. H. Whittaker produced at the City Hall on Saturday night. Every event was evenly contested and the referee's awards in each instance were as popular as they were sound.

The first event of the evening was a six round bout between Gunner White, of the 88th Co. R.G.A., and Parker, of the U.S.S. *Helena*. The match was a willing one; both men gave an excellent exhibition, but the Gunner was too sound in his tactics to fall a victim to the American, who lost the fight on points.

The next bout was between Gunner Arundel, of the 88th Co. R.G.A. and Gunner Hubbard, of the 87th Co. R.G.A. Arundel throughout exhibited better qualifications and must have defeated the 87th man on points had he not been awarded the fight on a foul in the fifth round.

The succeeding event was a six-round contest between Kid Marriott, of the Naval Yard, and Gunner Williams, of the 88th Co. R.G.A. It was announced that the Gunner allowed Marriott 8lbs., but it was apparent to the most casual observer that there was a much greater difference in the weights of the men than those announced. Marriott was giving his opponent just about two stone. He fought a gallant fight, but weight told and the foul on which the decision was given against him was one of those hasty blows which often mars a good fight. Apart from the decision there is little doubt that Marriott would have won the fight on points, if not on a knock out.

A fast three-round exhibition spar followed between two units of the Royal Engineers who preferred that their names should not be mentioned. It was a clever exhibition and both men deserved the prolonged applause which followed their efforts.

Coleman, of the U. S. S. *Helena*, was matched against Walters, of the U. S. S. *Rainbow*, but in the absence of the latter Will's of the Buffs filled the vacancy. The fight from beginning to end was a sterling go, and as it had been decided that the referee should give no decision unless there was a knock-out, the result was announced as a draw.

The main event of the evening was between Lewis, a little white man who says he is a Canadian, and Buckman, a negro from the U.S.S. *Helena*. Lewis's weight was announced as 132 lbs. while Buckman was stated to turn the scale at 158 lbs. The little white man was giving big odds, but fully justified the opinion which a chosen few held of him. The general idea was that Buckman would wipe the floor with the Canadian, but it was an agreeable surprise to most sportsmen present to witness the adroitness with which the clever little white man eluded all the wiles of the negro and scored on points in every round. Lewis was awarded the fight on a foul in the fifth round, but there is very little doubt that without this concession he would have defeated the coloured man on points, and there can now be no doubt that the name of Lewis will remain green while there is a man of his weight, or even a stone heavier, who will challenge him in Hongkong.

V.R.C. AQUATIC SPORTS.

An interesting aquatic sports meeting was held at the V.R.C. enclosure on Saturday in the presence of a large attendance. All the events were keenly contested, and the wins were scored on merits. Results were as under:

One length Handicap: W. J. Carroll, 1; Fenwick, 2.

Running header from Springboard. Points were allowed for form, distance, entry and recovery. M.A.R. Souza, 1; F. B. Silva, 2.

Two Lengths Handicap: Fenwick, 1; Petersen, 2.

Throwing Polo Ball: R. C. Witchell, 69 feet, 1; L. E. Lammert, 2.

Team Race. Three teams entered, but honours fell to the team captained by A. H. Carroll, which was composed of Messrs. A. S. Ellis, H. W. Peterson, W. J. Carroll, and A. R. Souza.

Water Polo: The sports concluded with a willing water polo match between teams representing the whites and the blues. The game proved an exceptionally exciting one, and it was not until extra time had been played that the blues got the advantage.

Final: Blues, 3; Whites, 1 goal.

C.Y.C. WATER CARNIVAL.

On the 11th instant the Corinthian Yacht Club members propose to hold a water carnival at their Club House, and to this they extend a cordial invitation to the ladies of the Colony. Adequate arrangements are being made for the accommodation of the large attendance which is anticipated on account of the number of events which are open to all comers. Only two events are confined to members of the Club, the ladies' nomination race and the two lengths handicap. The open events are a two lengths handicap, 100 yards championship, life-saving competition, high dive and water polo match.

HONGKONG CRICKET LEAGUE.

The sixth annual report of the Cricket League states:—

Nine clubs participated in the shield competition, viz. Hongkong 'B', Civil Service, Telegraphs, Hongkong 'A', Craigengower Royal Garrison Artillery, Royal Engineers, Police, and Kowloon. The shield was won by Hongkong 'B' after a keen struggle with Civil Service, the runners up. The competing clubs were not so equally matched as in the previous season when four clubs went neck and neck for the Championship. Some clubs found the league programme too arduous and failed to complete their fixtures. The premier club, having a heavy interport programme before it, will not enter 'A' and 'B' teams for the coming season, but will probably enter a capable second eleven. It is probable the Telegraphs will be unable to raise an eleven and will be merged in the Hongkong Club. It is anticipated that the Buffs will join the competition. It has been suggested that a League XI. play a series of three test matches against the Hongkong C.C. It has also been suggested that a second division of the league be formed. The method of placing clubs in the league table is the same as that adopted by the Counties at home, viz. by percentages, and I would earnestly recommend that the method of arranging fixtures be likewise the same, that is that the management of each club pleases itself what and how many fixtures it arranges so long as it arranges and plays at least half the maximum. If some such scheme as this is not adopted several clubs and many individual players will decline to take part in what they deem a too arduous undertaking. The shield and gold medals were given into the keeping of Mr. F. Maitland, the H.K.C.C. President, by Mr. W. D. Braidwood, the Vice-President of the League, at the conclusion of the match with the Ladies Recreation Club. Mr. A. E. Asger, the indefatigable Hon. Sec. of the League, left Hongkong for England in April and is expected to return in about two months. The accounts show a credit balance of \$41.90. The report bears the signature of Mr. Alan O. Brawn, as acting Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

THE YUNNAN RAILWAY.

BY A PARIS CORRESPONDENT OF "THE TIMES."

The construction of the railway in Yunnan, the prolongation of the Tong-King railway from Haifong to Lao-Kai is being pursued energetically. The formation of the line is almost completed as far as Yunnan, and only three metal bridges remain unfinished, each 164ft. in length. The railway is, in fact, now open for traffic for a distance of 186 miles from Lao-Kai, leaving 90 miles still to be finished to reach Yunnan. It is hoped that the entire undertaking will be ready for use early in 1910.

An earthquake, which occurred on May 11, near the outskirts of Pao-Hi, the present rail-head, caused serious damage to a bridge in masonry and also to three tunnels, resulting in an unforeseen delay of several weeks. The construction of this railway has been extremely difficult, and at one time the success of the undertaking appeared to be doubtful.

The course of the line was surveyed in 1900 and 1901. It traversed the Nam-ti valley, passing near Meng-tsz, reaching Ami-chu at the 139th mile and Y-hang-Hien at the 251st mile with the terminal station at Yunnan, giving a total length of 292 miles. The scheme was adopted in 1901 and was estimated to entail an outlay of £3,800,000. The transport of the requisite materials gave rise in the first instance to serious trouble.

The construction of the railway was definitely approved early in 1904, when the works were put in hand. At that date the railway from Haifong to Lao-Kai was still unfinished, and was not expected to be ready until 1906. This involved a great increase in cost, as the material had to be transported by wagons, barges and mules. Another difficulty was caused by the scarcity of labour in the country traversed, for, contrary to expectations, it was found to be very sparsely inhabited, and workmen had to be brought from places as far distant as Canton and Tientsin. During the month of October, 1906, and throughout the year 1907, when the work was expedited to the utmost, there were not less than 60,000 people employed, 40,000 of whom were actually engaged on the construction. The capital originally estimated to be required was found to be wholly inadequate, and the cost has reached £6,600,000. In consequence of an arrangement made with the French Government and the colony of Indo-China, the requisite funds have been raised, and in spite of serious financial embarrassments no delay has been caused to the work.

The line is of metre gauge throughout; the maximum gradients between Chen-Kiang and Yunnan are 2.5 per cent., and between Ami-chu and Chen-Kiang they amount to 1.5 per cent. The minimum radius of curves is 5 chains. There are 147 tunnels, with a total length of nearly 9½ miles. The altitude above datum at the starting point at Lao-Kai is 295ft., while at the 93rd mile, it reaches a height of 5,576ft. From this point the line descends in the direction of mi-chu, situated at an altitude of 3,486ft.; it attains at Chen-Kiang an elevation of 5,362ft., and at Chouci-Tan a height of 6,624ft. At the terminus, at Yunnan, the altitude is 6,186ft. above datum. The rolling stock now actually in use consists of 51 locomotives, 106 coaches, and 530 trucks and vans.

The railway already obtains an important amount of traffic proceeding in the direction of China. The passenger traffic in 1908 included 51,811 Europeans and 1,478,077 natives, while the receipts for that year reached approximately £120,000.

FAR EASTERN TELEGRAMS.

HONGKONG'S RAILWAY INVESTMENTS.

THE COST AND PROSPECTS OF THE KOWLOON RAILWAY.

London, August 31st.

Mr. L. Ginnell (Nationalist member for Westmeath N.) asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies what steps had been taken by the Government to secure the performance of the undertaking given by Chang-Chih Tung in connection with the loan advanced by the Hongkong Government to enable the Chinese authorities to redeem the Canton-Hankow Railway concession.

Colonel Seely, Under Secretary, replied that British capital was to have the preference in constructing the line, if the terms offered by others were not more favourable. The German group offered terms which China accepted as being more advantageous than the British offer.

Mr. Ginnell further asked how the Kowloon railway could ever be made to pay in competition with the shorter navigable river.

Colonel Seely pointed out that the direct profit was not the only matter to consider; the indirect profit accruing from the improvement of trade facilities was far more important.

As regards the increased cost of the Kowloon railway over the estimate Colonel Seely declared that the original estimate was very rough and never intended to be exact. The line he added, was being constructed with the full consent of the Hongkong Government.—*Reuter*.

COMMERCIAL

IMPORTS:—

RICE.

HONGKONG, 4th September:—The quotations of the market are nearly the same as when last reported.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$5.00	to	\$5.05
" Round, Good quality ...	5.05	to	5.10
" Long	5.10	to	5.15
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	5.00	to	5.05
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	5.15	to	5.20
" White,	5.30	to	5.35
" Fine Cargo	5.45	to	5.50

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, Aug. 19th.—We beg to continue our advice of the 12th ulto., since when the movements in our various Opium markets have been as follows:—

	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian
Stocks on the 19th Aug., 1909—	1,867	2,196	996	430
Aug., 20th Imports per <i>Footcang</i> —	2,020	3,106	1,798	508
" 26th " " <i>Laisang</i> —	200	410	442	—
" 30th " " <i>Japan</i> —	200	335	—	—
*ept. 2nd " " <i>Assaye 153</i> —	100	15	129	—
Less Exports to Shanghai ..	6	630	90	—
Less Exports to East and West Coast Ports including Local Consumption for the fortnight ..	127	399	197	162

Estimated Stocks this day .. 1,887 2,077 1,511 406.

Bengal.—The rise here seems to be due to the fact that notwithstanding the interruption of trade with Canton the Calcutta and Shanghai markets are advancing. We quote Patna and Benares at \$1,065 at the close.

Malwa.—No change to report.

Persian.—We quote superior drug at \$1,070.

YARN.

HONGKONG.—Mr. P. Eduljee, in his Report dated 3rd Sept., states:—There has been much less doing in this market, and the past fortnight has been comparatively quiet. The principal factor at work has been the recent rise in Rupee exchange, leading to the belief amongst buyers of a still greater improvement in remitting rates in the near future. Importers have been pressing sales at a reduction of 50 cents to a dollar per bale on all desirable spinnings, but dealers are acting very cautiously, and being now fairly well supplied with every grade of twist from their late heavy purchases, can afford to wait development, and business at the close is more or less at a standstill. No. 20s continue to attract attention and have been largely dealt in and comprise the bulk of the settlements. The demand for No. 10s has greatly subsided and would appear to run on medium grades. No. 12s and 16s are in short supply and values of favourite tickets show some appreciation. Receipts during the interval are moderate, and stocks show a slight decrease from last estimate. The market closes quiet but steady. Bombay continues strong, and only a small business is passing for the Far Eastern markets; the level of values being still unapproachable, as compared with prices ruling here and in the North. Sales of the interval aggregate 4,593 bales, arrivals amount to 5,839 bales; unsold stock estimated at 18,000; and sold but uncleared yarn in second hands at 35,000 bales. Local Manufacture:—Sales of 75 bales No. 8s at \$113, 300 bales No. 10s at \$115, and 250 bales No. 12s at \$117½ are reported. Japanese Yarn:—There is no change in the continued quietness of these threads. Raw Cotton:—Stocks of Indian and China staple are exhausted, and in the absence of any supply the market is almost closed. Quotations are:—Indian, \$28 to \$36; and Chinese, \$32 to \$37½. Exchange on India has slightly advanced in sympathy with silver and closes strong to-day at Rs. 132½ for T/T and Rs. 132½ for Post. On Shanghai 74½ and on Japan 85½. The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 28th ultimo, viz.:—Indian:—Demand brisk during the first portion of the interval, but has considerably subsided at the close. Total sales about 3,000 bales at about late quotations, with an estimated stock of 76,000 bales. Japanese:—In good request, about 3,500 bales changing hands on the basis of Tls. 108½ to Tls. 111 for No. 16s, and Tls. 116 to Tls. 119 for No. 20s. Local:—Sales reported are 1,000 bales No. 14s and 16s, at Tls. 100 and Tls. 106½ respectively.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co. in their Piece Goods Report, dated Shanghai, 27th August, 1909, state:—Excepting that there has been considerable movement in American goods amongst second-hand holders during the interval, the market has not shown much change since we last wrote. Toward the close Exchange has suddenly taken a move upwards, being the only fluctuation of any importance since the end of June. What effect it will have on the market is problematical. Buyers usually make it the excuse to lower their offers, but some holders seem to think they cannot possibly do that on this occasion, as prices have been so very inadequate for a long time past. The natives, never heless, have lots of assurance and do not miss anything by not asking for it. However, we are still in hopes that a distinct change will come over the market in the near future. The harvests are more promising and the fears of injury by floods diminishing. The chief enquiry for the American goods, mentioned above, has come from Newchwang and Hankow, and a fair business, variously estimated at from 6 to 8,500 bales, has taken place, the native dealers being able to supply the entire demand from their own stocks on hand. That prices have not shown greater improvement than they have seems to have been brought about through a misunderstanding between a large holder and his shroffs, and not through any special exigency of the market. For Tientsin it is suspected that a small business, is passing, but it is being kept very quiet. Judging by the clearances other markets are taking their fair quota of goods. The news emanating from a Chinese newspaper that Japan and China had settled their differences regarding Manchurian affairs, seems almost too good to be true, and we prefer to wait for some confirmation of it before making any comments. On the lines set forth it would certainly be a very desirable settlement. Private advices from Vladivostok just received are to the effect that but for a large export of Beans from Manchuria, quite a new business this year, trade is rapidly dwindling down since it became a closed port. There are strong evidences, however, that the Japanese are going to divert the whole of the Manchurian trade, import as well as export, by opening a new free port just below the Russian frontier on the Korean Coast, to be connected by railway with the Moukden-Antung line, and from its geographical position it ought to develop into an important place in a very few years. There is no change in the position of the home markets, Manchester especially keeping very strong, while in some sections of the industry an effort is being made to keep prices up artificially, a course always to be deprecated as likely to do more harm than good by inviting outside competition. In certain branches of the trade it is still possible to connect in a small way, but otherwise there is next to nothing doing for the China market. The Liverpool Cotton market, after some fluctuation, has returned to 6.73d. for Mid-American "spot," the quotation for "August" coming yesterday 6.62d. Egyptian has recovered to 9½d. The last fortnightly advice of the export of Plain Cottons was 16 million yards. The New York market is fully a shilling a piece over the prices current here, 10s. 5d. being quoted for 3.25 yard goods. Cotton, after slumping to 12.12 cents has recovered again to 12.24 cents for September option and 12.37 cents for December. There is a lull in the Yarn market, prices being considered too high to touch with impunity, but for what business is passing full rates are being obtained for Indian Spinings. Bombay is quiet but firm. Japanese yarn is perhaps a shade easier, which may be in sympathy with Osaka. Local spinnings are fairly steady but there is little fresh doing. Native Cotton is easier on account of the improved crop prospects. We understand that the bulk of the forward buying so far is for the Japanese Mills. Holders of Manchester makes are still anxiously looking for that demand which never comes, or so they say! Perhaps it looks small in comparison to what they have known it, which is probably the case, for there must be something doing all the time for re-exports to keep up as well as they are. Of course there is next to no indenting going on, except in retail quantities of specialities as mentioned above, while the market book is quite devoid of any transactions from stock. In American makes it is as bad so far as importers are concerned, but a considerable interest is still held by the dealers and from this the demand is being supplied at about a shilling a piece under replacing cost, that's all! The run has been chiefly on 3 and 2.35 yard Drills, both the buyers Hankow, and Newchwang being in the field for them, the former asking some 3,000 bales out of the total. It is

difficult to get the exact figures, but it is roughly estimated that 5,300 bales Drills, 2,000 bales Sheetings and 2,000 bales Shirtings have changed hands, as follows:—Drills.—Enoree F. F. Tls. 4.42½/45, 5 Swallow Tls 4.47½, Clifton R. and Red Joss Tls. 4.50, 5 Parrots Tls. 4.50/52½, Water Melon Tls. 4.65, 4 Parrots Tls. 4.65/67½, Merit A. and Eagle and Duck Tls. 4.67½, Heaven's Mandarin and Piedmont A. (Standing Horse) Tls. 4.70. Six Dragon and Calf's Head Tls. 4.75, Small Horse Head Tls. 4.80. Massachusetts Tls. 5.00 and Pepperell Tls. 5.25. Shirtings.—Camel Tls. 3.30. Soldier Tls. 3.32½. Two Pagoda Tls. 3.30/35. Three Parrots Tls. 3.35/37½, and Buffalo L. L. Tls. 3.57½. Sheetings. Buffalo A Tls. 4.37½, Henrietta D Tls. 4.62½, Piedmont Tls. 4.65/67½. Cabot A and and Enterprise A Tls. 4.67½. Loray A and Abbeville Tls. 4.67½/70, Whitney Tls. 4.95 and Buck's Head Tls. 5.05. The Auctions have not shown very satisfactory results on the whole. It is noticeable the 8.4-lbs. Shirtings were inclined to steady up a little, but with exception of best 12-lbs. the heavier weights had a drooping tendency. White Shirtings have not shown up very well on the whole, but there were exceptions. T-laths were without much change. The lighter weight Jeans were steady to firm, but the heavier qualities did not do so well. Turkey Reds were weak and drooping, Fast Black Italians somewhat in and out, but on the average without much change of importance. Venetians were a trifle easier. Woollens have sold at decidedly irregular prices:

HONGKONG PRICES CURRENT.

HONGKONG, 3rd September, 1909.

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

Grey Shirtings—6lbs.	piece	\$1 95	—
7 lbs.	"	2.30	to 2.55
8.4 lbs.	"	3.10	to 4.25
10 lbs.	"	4.35	to 5.70
White Shirtings—54/56 reed ..	"	2.90	to 3.75
58/60 ..	"	4.20	to 5.80
64/66 ..	"	6.20	to 7.40
Fine	"	7.45	to 9.95
Book-folds ..	"	6.25	to 6.90
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	"	0.75	to 2.01
T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y ..	"	2.20	to 2.30
7 lbs. " " " ..	"	2.35	to 2.45
6 lbs. " " " " ..	"	—	—
7 lbs. " " " " ..	"	2.80	to 4.05
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) ..	"	3.60	to 4.35
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ ..	"	4.65	to 6.05
to 14 lbs. }	"	—	—

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Chirtings—1½ to }	6 lbs. piece	1.82	to 5.10
Brocades—Dyed	yard	0.11	to 0.15
Chinese—Assorted	"	0.08	to 0.35
Velvets—Black, 22 in.,	"	0.28	to 0.55
Velveteens—18 in.,	"	0.24	to 0.28
Handkerchiefs — Imitation }	Silk per dozen	0.50	to 5.00

WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops ..	yard	0.70	to 2.00
German,	"	2.00	—
Habit, Medium & Broad Sloths ..	"	1.25	to 3.00
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-9 lbs. piece	"	7.80	to 9.40
Assorted ..	"	7.90	to 9.40
Camlets—Assorted ..	"	—	—

WHEATEN FLOUR—

Lastings—30 yds. 31 inches }	"	14.00	to 21.00
Assorted	"	—	—
Orleans—Plain	"	9.00	to 12.00
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	"	0.60	to 1.50

RAW COTTON—

Bombay	picul	\$26.00	to \$32.00
Bengal (New), Rangoon ..	"	—	—
and Dacca	"	26.00	to 32.00
Shanghai and Japanese ..	"	27.00	to 33.00
Tungchow and Ningpo ..	"	28.00	to 33.00

METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod	picul	\$ 3.95	—
square, Flat, Round Bar (Eng.) ..	"	3.90	—
Swedish Bar	"	4.00	—
Small Round Rod	"	4.50	—
Hoop, ½ to 1½ in.,	"	5.60	—
Wire, 16/25 oz.,	"	9.50	—
Old Wire Rope	"	3.00	—
Lead—L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop ..	"	9.20	—
Australian	"	9.00	—
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/28 oz. ...	"	39.50	—
Vivian's, 16/32 oz., ..	"	39.50	—
Elliot's, 16/28 oz. ...	"	39.50	—
Tin,	"	90.00	—
Tin-Plates,	box	7.50	—
Steel	cwt. case	—	—

MISCELLANEOUS—

Quicksilver,	picul 169.00	—	—
Window Glass,	box	5.80	—
Kerosene Oil,	case	—	—

EXPORTS:—

TEA

HANKOW, 26th August—Business reported since the 14th inst., is as under:—

	1909.	1908.
Settlements ...	7,202	4,777

Consisting of the following Teas:—

	1909.	1908.
Ningchows ...	147	1900
Oopacks ...	419	10.00
Oonams ...	132	10.50
Oonfans ...	5,375	9.80
Ichangs ...	1,129	22.75

The following are Statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular of last season, viz., 26th August, 1908:—

	1909	1908
* HANKOW TEA	1-chests	1-chests
Settlements ...	419,556	533,425
Shipments to Shanghai		
on Native account ...	6,421	45,000
Stock ...	32,299	43,242
Arrivals ...	458,276	621,667
KIUKIANG TEA.	1-chests	1-chests
Settlements ...	186,224	179,120
Shipments to Shanghai		
on Native account ...	294	15,335
Stock ...	19,982	6,757
Arrivals ...	206,500	201,212

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 4th September, 1909.—The market continues dull and we have but little of interest to report. Rates still show an inclination to weakness and the greater part of the business of the week has been confined to Rubbers Exchange on London closes at 1/9 T/F, and on Shanghai at 7 1/2.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai continued about the same as last week, with small sales at 1,002 1/2 and 1,000, the market closing quiet at the latter rate. London quotes £93 ex dividend. Nationals remain unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCE.—Unions have been placed at the reduced rate of 837 1/2 and 835, the market closing at the former rate. Cantons are on offer at the reduced rate of 185. A small sale has been effected at 188 during the week. North Chinas have ruled easier, and with sellers in the North at 121 the local rate has declined to 120 with sellers. Yangtszes are enquired for in small lots at quotation, but no shares seem to be available here.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have improved to 350 with small sales and close with buyers. Chinas have changed hands at 114 1/2 and 115.

SHIPPING.—Indo-Chinas were in demand at 59 1/2 for combined shares, but at time of closing buyers have withdrawn. Shells are wanted at 71/6, but no shares come on the market. Other stocks under this heading call for no remarks.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been in some demand, and in the absence of sellers the rate has improved to 145 closing with buyers. Luzons after further sales at 30 and 29 1/2 close with sellers at 29.

MINING.—We have no changes nor business to report under this heading.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks with a steady enquiry have improved to 62 after sales at 60 and 61, Kowloon Wharfs have also improved their position and after fair sales at 60 close in demand at that rate. Shanghai Docks are quoted a point higher in the North at 79 buyers, and Hongkew Wharfs after falling to 145, close at 148.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been dull and after a few more small sales at 105, sellers have ruled the market. Hotels have subsided and buyers are no longer to the front. West Points have changed hands at 44 and close with further sellers. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have declined in the North to Tls. 135 1/2. Internationals and Laou Kung Mows have improved to Tls. 92 and Tls. 113 respectively. Hongkongs continue neglected at 7 1/2 with sellers.

RUBBERS.—The market has ruled rather quieter, but a fair business has been transacted, and we have to report the following sales. Balgownias at 51 1/2 and 52, Anglo Malays at 14/9. (These shares have recently been split up into 10 shares of 2/ each for one old share of £1 paid up). Sungie Kapars at £3 2 6. Consolidated Malays at £6 5, Damansaras at £3 17. Lingies at 23/ and 23/6 and Ragalas at \$26 and \$25, Straits currency.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Dairys have changed hands at 17, and are still in request. Cements at 8.70, closing with sellers. China Lights at 6 1/2, 6 1/2 and 7, closing with sellers at the highest rate, and Watsons at 8. Philippines are in request at 9 and China Bornos at 13. Other stocks under this heading close with sellers at quotations.

Quotations are as follows:—

Stocks	PAID UP	QUOTATIONS
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$1,000, sellers
National B. of China	£6	\$65, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A...	12/6d.	\$10, buyers
China-Borneo Co.....	\$12	\$13, buyers
China Light & P. Co....	\$10	\$7, sellers
China Provident	\$10	\$9.00, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo Cotton S. & W.	Tls. 50	Tls. 135 1/2
Hongkong C. S. Co.	\$10	\$7 1/2, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 92
Laou Kung Mow ...	Tls. 100	Tls. 113
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 450
Dairy Farm Co.....	\$6	\$17, sales & buy.
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$60, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$62, buyers
New Amoy Dock ...	\$3 1/2	\$9
Shanghai Dock and	Tls. 100	Tls. 79
Eng. Co., Ltd	Tls. 100	Tls. 148
Fenwick & Co., Geo...	\$25	\$11, sellers
G. Island Cement Co	\$10	\$8.70, sal. & sel.
Hongkong & C. Gas...	\$10	\$210, buyers
Hongkong Electric...	\$10	\$20 1/2, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$75
Hongkong Ice Co.....	\$25	\$45
H'kong Rope M. Co....	\$25	\$188, x.d., sellers
H'kong Rope M. Co....	\$10	\$24, sellers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$185, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$115
China Traders	\$25	\$92, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$350, buyers
North China	\$25	Tls. 120, sellers
Union	\$100	\$837 1/2
Yangtsze	\$60	\$227 1/2, buyers
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$105, sellers
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	\$9 1/2, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30, sellers
Shanghai Land.....	Tls. 50	Tls. 119
West Point Building	\$50	\$44, sales & sel.
Mining—		
S. F. des C. du T'kin	Fr. 250	\$625, buyers
Rajubs	18/10d.	\$8
Peak Tramways Co., Ltd	\$10	\$14
Philippine Co., Ltd....	\$1	\$1.40
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$145, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$29, sellers
Robinson Piano Co. ...	\$50	\$50, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila...	\$25	\$9, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$36
H., Canton & M. ...	\$15	\$31 1/2, sellers
Indo-China S. N. Co.	\$25	\$41, 19,
Shell Transport Co.	£1	71/6, buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$26
South China M. Post...	\$5	\$15 1/2
Steam Laundry Co....	\$25	\$24, sellers
Steam Laundry Co....	\$5	\$5 1/2
Stores & Dispensaries—		
Campbell, M. & Co...	\$10	\$12
Wm. Powell, Ltd. ...	\$7	\$4, sellers
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$5, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$8
Weissmann, Ltd.....	\$100	\$150, buyers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$12.40
Union Waterboat Co....	\$10	\$300
Union Waterboat Co....	\$10	\$10 1/2

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

3rd September, 1909.

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION
Banks:—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$1,030, sales
National of China...	£6	\$50, sales
Russo-Chinese ...	R187 1/2	Tls. 125
Insurance:—		
Union Society C'tn	\$100	\$840, sales
North-China	£5	Tls. 120/121, sal.
Yangtsze Assocn. ...	\$60	\$235
Canton	\$50	\$195, sellers
Hongkong Fire.....	\$50	\$350, sales
China Fire.....	\$20	\$116, buyers
Shipping:—		
Indo - China { pref. }	£5	Tls. 48, buyers
Shell Trans. { def. }	£1	71/3
& Trading { ord. }	£10	£9.10.0
S'hai Tug & { pref. }	T50	Tls. 45, sellers
Lighter ... { ord. }	T50	Tls. 52, buyers
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	Tls. 45
Kochien Transport-	T50	Tls. 50, sales
ation & To Boat		
Docks & Wharves:—		
S'hai Dock & Erg...	T100	Tls. 77, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$60, sales
S. & H'kew Wharf...	T100	Tls. 150, buyers
H. K'loou W. & G...	\$50	\$60, sales
Yangtsze	T100	Tls. 205, sales
Sugar Companies:—		
Perak Cultivation...	T50	Tls. 300
China Refining.....	\$100	\$140, sales
Mining:—		
Raub Australian ...	£1	Tls. \$8 1/2, sellers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	£1	Tls. 18 1/2, sellers
Lands:—		
S'hai Investment...	T50	Tls. 119, sales
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$105, buyers
Humphreys' Estate	T10	\$9 1/2, buyers
Weiheiwei.....	T20	Tls. 9
China	T50	Tls. 50
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 105, sales
Cotton:—		
Ewo.....	T50	Tls. 139, buyers
Shanghai Cotton ...	T50	Tls. 78, sales
Internationals	T75	Tls. 92
Laou Kung Mow ...	T100	Tls. 114, sellers
Soy Chees	T500	Tls. 450, buyers
Industrial:—		
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 112 1/2, sellers
Major Brothers.....	T50	Tls. 52 1/2
Shanghai Ice.....	T25	Tls. 16 1/2, sales
China Flour Mill...	T50	Tls. 41 sal. & b.
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 35, buyers
Green Is. Cement...	\$10	\$9, sales
Mantschappij, &c.,		
in Langkat.....	Gs. 100	Tls. 1,067 1/2, buy.
Shanghai - Sumatra		
Tobacco	T20	Tls. 150, buyers
Dominion Rubbers...	T6	Tls. 14 1/2
S'hai Waterworks...	£20	Tls. 425
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	\$100	\$75
A. Butler Cement,		
Tile Works	T50	Tls. 20
Kalumpung Rubber	T50	Tls. 190
S. Rber Estates ...	T100	Tls. 272 1/2, buyers
T. R. & T. Estate Co.	£1	Tls. 16 1/2, buyers
Eastern Fibre	£10	Tls. 10
Shanghai Electric		
Construction.....	£10	£7.15.0, sales
Miscellaneous:—		
Hall & Holtz.....	\$20	\$23, sellers
A. Llewellyn	\$60	\$65
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$8 1/2, buyers
Central Ordinary...	\$15	\$17 1/2, sales & b.
Central Founders...	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Moutrie & Co. ...	\$50	\$42 1/2
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$27, sellers
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$17, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$70, sel. ex
Hotel des Colonies	T12.50	Tls. 5 1/2
Tsingtao Hotel	\$100	Tls. 75
Lane, Crawford & Co.	\$100	\$165
Dunning & Co.	\$50	\$35
S'hai Horse Bazar...	T50	Tls. 55
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 50
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 65, buyers
China Im. & Ex.		
Lumber	T100	Tls. 75
Shanghai Electric &		
Asbestos	\$25	\$21
Dallas Horae Re-		
pository	T70	Tls. 25
China Printing Co.	T50	Tls. 50

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

J. P. BISSET & Co.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 3rd September.—Freights remain about the same as last reported. From Saigon to Hongkong, 9 cents nominal; to Philippine, 20/24 cents according to size; to North Coast Java, 20 cents nominal; to Japan, nothing doing. From Rangoon to Manila, a large carrier has secured 32 cents per picul. From North Coast Java to Hongkong, fair demand, resulting in several fixtures, the rates being kept private. From Newchwang to Canton, 24 cents last. Coal freights are steady. From South Japan Coal port to this, \$1.60 to \$1.75 according to size; to Singapore, \$2.75. From Wakamatsu to Hongkong, \$1.90 last; Canton, \$2.50; Amoy \$2.30.

EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, September 3rd.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/9
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9 1/2
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	1/9 3/4
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9 3/4
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/9 1/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	220 1/2
Credits 4 months' sight	224 1/2
ON GERMANY.—On demand	
ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand	179 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	43 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	
Bank, on demand	132 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	
Bank on demand	132 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	
Private, 30 days' sight	74 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	
ON MANILA.—On demand	85 1/2
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	86 1/2
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	105 3/4
ON HAPPHONG.—On demand	9 1/2 p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	9 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	86 1/2
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$11.35
GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael	\$59.30
BAR SILVER per oz	23 1/2

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

August.—	
26, Hopsang, British str., from Java.	
27, Ambria, German str., from Hamburg.	
27, Drufar, Norwegian str., from Swatow.	
27, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.	
27, Suisang, Brit. str., from Chingwantao.	
27, Sungkiang, British str., from Iloilo.	
27, Tean, British str., from Manila.	
27, Tientsin, British str., from Tongku.	
28, Hongkong, French str., from Hoihow.	
28, Hudson, British str., from Shanghai.	
28, Paklat, Ger. str., from Bangkok.	
29, Bujun Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.	
29, Chinhua British str., from Shanghai.	
29, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.	
29, Chunsang, British str., from Wakamatsu.	
29, Haiyang, British str., from Coast Ports.	
29, Hongbee, British str., from Singapore.	
29, Pingsuey, British str., from Shanghai.	
29, Shinano Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.	
29, Tonkin, Fr. str., from Yokohama.	
30, Atholl, British str., from Singapore.	
30, Japan, British str., from Calcutta.	
30, Keong Wai, German str., from Bangkok.	
30, Kohsichang, German str., from Bangkok.	
30, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., from Melbourne.	
30, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.	
30, Rubi, British str., from Manila.	
30, Soshu Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.	
30, Tamba Maru, Jap. str., from Japan.	
30, Victoria, Swedish str., from Haiphong.	
31, Bengloe, British str., from Karatsu.	
31, Benvenue, British str., from London.	
31, Derfflinger, Ger. str., from Hamburg.	
31, Korea, Am. str., from San Francisco.	
31, Nikko Maru, Jap. str., from Japan.	
31, Singan, British str., from Haiphong.	
September.—	
1, Albenga, German str., from New York.	
1, Chenan, British str., from Shanghai.	
1, Daijin Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.	
1, Dakotah, Br. str., from San Francisco.	
1, Fausang, British str., from Samarang.	
1, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.	
1, Hakata Maru, Jap. str., from London.	
1, Hsin Ming, Chinese str., from Shanghai.	

- 1, Kwongsang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 1, Moyori Maru, Jap. str., from Kobe.
- 2, Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.
- 2, Assaye, British str., from Bombay.
- 2, Fukui Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
- 2, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 2, Looksun, German str., from Bangkok.
- 2, Montrose, British str., from Moji.
- 2, Nanchwang, British str., from Chefoo.

August.—

DEPARTURES.

- 27, Dott, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
- 27, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Hoihow.
- 27, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
- 27, Hanoi, French str., for Qung Chow Wan.
- 27, Helene, German str., for Hoihow.
- 27, Kiang Ping, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
- 27, Knivsberg, German str., for Haiphong.
- 27, Mishima Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
- 27, Petchaburi, German str., for Swatow.
- 27, Rajah, German str., for Bangkok.
- 27, Takasaki Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
- 27, Wongkoi, German str., for Bangkok.
- 27, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
- 27, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
- 28, Banri Maru, Jap. str., for Wakamatsu.
- 28, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 28, Mongolia, American str., for Shanghai.
- 28, Seattle Maru, Jap. str., for Keelung.
- 28, Suisang, British str., for Singapore.
- 29, Ambria, German str., for Shanghai.
- 29, Andalusia, German str., for Singapore.
- 29, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
- 29, Hangsang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 29, Huichow, British str., for Weihaiwei.
- 29, Mandasan Maru, Japanese str., for Miike.
- 29, Yatshing, British str., for Foochow.
- 30, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
- 30, Linan, British str., for Shanghai.
- 30, Polynesian, French str., for Shanghai.
- 31, America Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
- 31, Chipshing, British str., for Tientsin.
- 31, Dos Hermanos, Am. str., for Manila.
- 31, Foochow, British str., for Shanghai.
- 31, Haiyang, British str., for Swatow.
- 31, Hongbee, British str., for Amoy.
- 31, Ithaka, German str., for Chinkiang.
- 31, J. Diederichsen, German str., for Hoihow.
- 31, Tean, British str., for Manila.
- 31, Tonkin, French str., for Europe, &c.

September.—

- 1, Atholl, British str., for Shanghai.
- 1, Fooshing, British str., for Shanghai.
- 1, Germania, German str., for Hongay.
- 1, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
- 1, Hudson, British str., for Singapore.
- 1, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
- 1, Kutsang, British str., for Singapore.
- 1, Pingsuey, British str., for Saigon.
- 1, Pongtong, German str., for Bangkok.
- 1, Soshu Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
- 1, Tamba Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
- 2, Benvenue, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 2, Bourbon, French str., for Saigon.
- 2, Bunjun Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
- 2, Chinhua, British str., for Shanghai.
- 2, Derfflinger, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
- 2, Drufar, Norwegian str., for Swatow.
- 2, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 2, Kiukiang, British str., for Chefoo.
- 2, Maori King, Br. str., for Chingwantao.
- 2, Paklat, German str., for Swatow.
- 2, Pheumpenh, British str., for Saigon.
- 2, Phranang, German str., for Bangkok.
- 2, Quinta, German str., for Sourabaya.
- 2, Victoria, Swedish str., for Haiphong.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Jacob Diederichsen*, from Hoihow, Mrs George.

Per *Japan*, from Calcutta, &c., Mr. Nonis and Mr. M. K. Bain.

Per *Chinhua*, from Shanghai, Miss A. Keay and Mr. Grant Smith.

Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Miss L. M. Midland, Messrs W. R. Blessing, O. Snyder, R. Vogt, A. and R. Banmann.

Per *Haiyang*, from Coast Ports, Mr and Mrs Wood, Mrs Monteith, Rev. Clainzet, Masters Whitfield and J. M. Rins, Messrs R. Horne, Perry, Ray, G. Cooke, J. Hardy and Cruickshank.

Per *Tamba Maru*, from Japan, &c., Mr and Mrs C. Elliot, Mr and Mrs Wm. Wolfe and child, Mr and Mrs Aduam and child, Mrs J. Fosseter, Mrs B. Oxberry, Miss I. K. Greenlee, Messrs S. Dang, M. Nichang, Chas. A. Littler, C. H. Higginbatham, R. Cravies & R. Taylor.

Per *Hakata Maru*, from London, &c., Miss G. Main, Messrs A. McTurk Smith, R. C. Whitnack, A. Melchers, H. Hirase and L. Ellis.

Per *Haimun*, from Coast Ports, Mr and Mrs Edge, Mrs and Miss Chapman, Misses E. O. Sullivan, Giffin and Pitts, Messrs Lightfoot, Craggs and R. S. Kemney.

Per *Tean*, from Manila, Mr and Mrs Wagner and infant, Mr and Mrs Goon and infant, Mrs McGrath, Miss Danesi, Lieut. Wells, Messrs Levois, Gaston, Bunge, Archard & Beggente.

Per *Shinano Maru*, from Japan, &c., Mr and Mrs G. W. Gegg, Mrs R. Matsuo, Misses S. Uyeda and C. Suyeyoshi, Lt. E. J. Haughton, Master R. C. Gegg, Messrs A. J. D. S. Souza, W. T. Odell, W. A. Walsh, and T. Inokuchi.

Per *Polynesian*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mr and Mrs Reans and 2 infants; from Singapore, Messrs Van Zuyku, Hummel, H. Holgate, L. Corte; from Saigon, Mr and Mrs Seroy and baby, Mrs Groustean, Messrs E. M. Hugh, F. Arthur, Bourgnignat and Guil.

Per *Assaye*, for Hongkong, from London, Miss G. Hunter and Mr R. V. Willis; from Bombay, Mr A. Doodha; from Colombo, Lieut. S. R. E. W. Taylor, Messrs P. Dakerberg and Toulson; from Singapore, Bishop Oldham and Mr D. MacDonald; for Shanghai, from Bombay, Messrs S. S. David and L. Neaminn; for Yokohama, from London, Mr and Mrs R. B. Waite, and Miss Gething; from Singapore, Messrs V. A. Karim and S. Fernihough.

Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Mrs Nichido Williams, Mrs R. Goldenberg, Mrs McLeod, Misses M. Dearing, I. Wadwell, D. Brown, K. Nathan, H. Balfour, G. Spencer, N. Homby, I. McGuire, P. McGuire, O. Iscarpe, B. Leadle, L. Clark, R. May, M. Nuttal, M. Browky and C. Spencer, Messrs J. McArthur, A. S. W. Cunshan, J. Goldenberg, J. Ross, T. Liddiard, C. De Wit, C. W. Dodalini, J. E. Mordicai, E. Mordicai, A. Estorella, P. Jeacle, W. Connelly and S. Bioux.

DEPARTED.

Per *America Maru*, for Moji, Mr A. Sasao; for Callao, Mr B. G. Secane.

Per *Zafiro*, for Manila, Mr and Mrs F. M. Morecraft, Miss C. Gonzales, Messrs T. Delmar Smith, Patten Lee and S. J. Argall.

Per *Tamba Maru*, for London, Mrs Coggin, Miss K. Massey, Dr. M. Nakayama, Dr. Y. Asahina, Messrs T. Nakatani, K. Inouye, T. Kujue, F. Stedman, T. Tanaka, J. Honda and H. Ishii.

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Per *Kumano Maru*, for Japan, Mr and Mrs G. D. Poli, Mr and Mrs Ogaminio, Mr and Mrs W. Burns, Rev. and Mrs S. B. Kurtz and 2 infants, Mrs E. Withers, Mrs Imafuku and child, Misses I. Nakajima and E. Urmura, Rev. A. B. Thornhill, Capt. K. D. Hutchison, Dr. Gans, Messrs J. B. Lambert, M. Kikuchi and servant, Vogee and servant, L. Arthur, H. L. Carnegie, J. McKenzie, C. Wilborre, G. Okita, F. Takaha, Bonifacio Arevalo, Jose Basa, C. R. Howard, I. Ishikawa, Domingo Lao, Antonio L. Lao, Vicente Lukban and Jarandos Tommall.

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